

HESPERIDES,

OR

WORKS BOTH HUMAN AND DIVINE,

OF

• EDITED BY

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CONTENTS.

PASTORAL AND DESCRIPTIVE.

i.	To his Muse	18
ii.	How the Wall-flower came first, and why so called	19
iii.	A Parame'tical, or adviseive verse to his friend, Mr. John Wicks	20
iv.	To Daisies, not to shut so soon	21
v.	Corinna's going a Maying	22
vi.	The Meadow Verse, or Anniversary of Mrs. Bridget Lowman	24
vii.	A Country Life; to his brother, M. Tho. Herrick .	25
viii.	A Bucolic, or discourse of Neat herds	30
ix.	His tears to Thamasia.	32
x.	A Bucolic between her; Lacon and Thyrsis . . .	33
xi.	The Country Life; to the Honoured Mr. End. Porter Groom of the Bed-chamber to His Majesty . .	35
xii.	How Violets came blue	37
xiii.	The Hock-Cart, or Harvest-home; to the Right Honorable Mildmay, Earl of Westmoreland .	38
xiv.	His Age. Dedicated to his peculiar friend, Mr. John Wicks, under the name of Posthumous .	40
xv.	To Cherry blossoms	45
xvi.	How Roses came red	45
xvii.	To Meadows	46
xviii.	A Pastoral upon the Birth of Prince Charles, pre- sented to the King, and Set by M. Nic. Lanriere	47
xix.	A Panegyric to Sir Lewis Pemberton	49
xx.	How lilies came white	52
xxi.	An Eclogue, or Pastoral between Endymion Porter and Lycidas Herrick, Set and sung	54

xxii.	To Blossoms	55
xxiii.	To a bed of Tulips	56
xxiv.	To Primroses filled with morning dew	57
xxv.	A New year's gift sent to Sir Simcon Steward	58
xxvi.	Fair days; or dawns deceitful	59
xxvii.	To Daffodils	60
xxviii.	Upon one Lillie who married with a maid called Rose	60
xxix.	A Pastoral sung to the King	61
xxx.	Charon and Philomel. A dialogue sung	63
xxxi.	The Funeral Rites of the Rose	64
xxxii.	The succession of the four sweet months	64
xxxiii.	To Violets	65
xxxiv.	Farewell Frost, or Welcome the Spring.	65
xxxv.	To Flowers	66

FAIRY LAND.

xxxvi.	To Larr.	68
xxxvii.	The Fairies	69
xxxviii.	Larr's portion and the Poet's part	69
xxxix.	The Fairy Temple; or Oberon's Chapel.	70
xl.	Oberon's Feast	75
xli.	Oberon's Palace	77
xlii.	The Beggar to Mab, the Fairy Queen	81
xliii.	The Hag	82
xliv.	A Hymn to the Larks	82
xlv.	To the little Spinners	83
xlvi.	The Genius of his house	84
xlvii.	The departure of the Good Daemon	84

CHARMS AND CEREMONIES.

xlviii.	Divination by a Daffodil	86
xlix.	The Peter-penny	87
i.	Ceremonies for Christmas	88
ii.	A Charm, or an assay for Love	88
iii.	The Wassail	88
iiii.	Ceremonies for Candlemas Eve	90
lv.	The Ceremonies for Candlemas Day.	91

CONTENTS.

iii.

lv.	Draw-Gloves	81
lvi.	Ceremony upon Candlemas Eve	92.
lvii.	Upon Candlemas day	92
lviii.	The Olive Branch	92
lix.	Christmas Eve, another ceremony	93
lx.	The Spell	93
lxi.	Another.	93
lxii.	Twelfth-Night, or King and Queen	94
lxiii.	St. Dunstons day, or the morrow after Twelfth-day	95
lxiv.	Charms	95
lxv.	The May-pole.	96
lxvi.	A Song to the Maskers	96
lxvii.	Charms	97
lxviii.	Another Charm for Stables	97
lxix.	On himself.	97
lxx.	Barley Break; or last in Hell	97
lxxi.	Charm	98
lxxii.	Another to the Maids	98
lxxiii.	Another.	98
lxxiv.	Another.	98
lxxv.	The Old Wives' Prayer	99
lxxvi.	The Parting Verse, to Mistress Bridget Lowman, the feast there ended	99
lxxvii.	To Dianene. A Ceremony in Gloucester	100
lxxviii.	The Bell-Man.	100

EPITAPHS.

lxxix.	Upon a Virgin	102
lxxx.	His own Epitaph	103
lxxxi.	Upon his Kinswoman Mrs. M. S.	103
lxxxii.	Upon Prew, his Maid	104
lxxxiii.	Upon an Old Man, a Residentiary	104
lxxxiv.	Upon the much lamented Mr. J. Warr	104
lxxxv.	Upon a Virgin	105
lxxxvi.	Upon a Maid	105
lxxxvii.	Upon the Lady Crew	105
lxxxviii.	Upon a Maid	106

xxxix.	Upon a Child	104
xc.	Upon a Wife that died mad with jealousy	106
xcl.	Upon a Young Mother of many children	108
xcii.	Upon a Maid that died the day she was married	107
xciii.	An Epitaph upon a Sober Matron	107
xciv.	Upon his Spaniel Tracy	107
xcv.	Upon a Lady that died in child bed, and left a daughter behind her	108
xevi.	Upon a Child	108
xcvii.	Upon a Maid	108
xcviii.	Upon a Child that died	109
xcix.	Upon Ben Jonson	109
c.	Upon Himself being buried	109
ci.	Upon a Virgin	109
cii.	Upon a Child. An Epitaph.	110
ciii.	Upon a comely and curious Maid	110
civ.	On Himself	110
cv.	On Himself	110

APHORISMS.

cvi.	Fame makes us forward	112
cvil.	True Friendship	112
cviii.	Cruelty base in Commanders	113
cix.	Little and Loud	113
cx.	Shipwreck	113
cxl.	Poverty and Riches	114
cxii.	Again	114
cxijl.	Laws	114
cxlv.	Good luck not lasting	114
cxv.	Glory	114
cxvi.	Poets	114
cxvii.	No despite to the dead	114
cxviii.	Painting sometimes permitted	115
cxix.	Physicians	115
cxx.	Long look'd for comes at last	115
cxxi.	Never too late to die	115
cxxii.	The Covetous still Captives	115

CONTENTS.

v.

cxxiii.	Mean things overcome Mighty	115
cxxiv.	Kings	115
cxxv.	First Work and then Wages	116
cxxvi.	Tears and laughter	116
cxxvii.	Glory.	116
cxxviii.	Possessions	116
cxxix.	Poverty the greatest Pack	116
cxxx.	True Safety	116
cxxxi.	Fame	116
cxxxii.	By Use comes Ease	117
cxxxiii.	Money makes the Mirth	117
cxxxiv.	Maids nays are nothing.	117
cxxxv.	Delay.	117
cxxxvi.	Ambition	117
cxxxvii.	The Rosemary Branch	117
cxxxviii.	Once seen, and no more	117
cxxxix.	Love	118
cxl.	Dental in Women no disheartening in Men	118
cxli.	The last stroke strikes sure	118
cxlii.	Perseverance	118
cxliii.	Distance better dignities	118
cxliv.	Adversity	118
cxlv.	Fortune	118
cxlv.	Writing	119
cxlvi.	Society	119
cxlvi.	Satisfaction for Sufferings	119
cxlix.	Need	119
cli.	The Body	119
cli.	On Love	119
clii.	Another	119
cliii.	Factions	120
cliv.	Slavery	120
clv.	Surfeits.	120
clvi.	Tears	120
clvii.	Truth	120
clviii.	The Eyes before the Ears	120
clx.	Wail	120

clx.	Blame	121
clxi.	Twilight	121
clxii.	Verses	121
clxiii.	Happiness	121
clxiv.	Things of choice, long coming	121
clxv.	Burial	121
clxvi.	The Mean	121
clxvii.	His Loss	122
clxviii.	Upon Love	122
clxix.	Lenity	122
clxx.	Grief	122
clxxi.	Counsels	122
clxxii.	Most Words, less Works	122
clxxiii.	Draw and Drink	122
clxxiv.	Penitence	123
clxxv.	Beauty	123
clxxvi.	Readiness	123
clxxvii.	The Eye	123
clxxviii.	Virtue best United	123
clxxix.	Regression spoils Resolution	123
clxxx.	Contention	123
clxxxi.	Consultation	124
clxxxii.	Our own Sins unseen	124
clxxxiii.	No pains, no gains	124
clxxxiv.	Examples: or, like prince like people	124
clxxxv.	Potentates	124
clxxxvi.	Death ends all woe	124
clxxxvii.	Clemency in Kings	124
clxxxviii.	Anger	125
clxxxix.	Moderation	125
cxc.	Power and Peace	125
cxci.	Cruelties	125
cxcii.	Health	125
cxclii.	Biting of Beggars	125
cxcliv.	Adversity	125
cxcv.	Want	126
cx cvi.	Grief	126

cxvii.	No action hard to Affection	126
cxviii.	Rewards and Punishments	126
cxix.	Shame, no Statist	126
cc.	Kissing and Bussing.	126
cci.	Cross and Pile	126
ccii.	Loss from the least	127
cciii.	Great spirits supervive	127
cciv.	The credit of the conqueror	127
ccv.	Change gives content	127
ccvi.	Accusation	127
ccvii.	Pride allowable in Poets.	127
ccviii.	Discord not disadvantageous	127
ccix.	Ill Government	128
ccx.	None free from fault	128
ccxi.	Pity to the Prostrate	128
ccxii.	Rewards	128
ccxiii.	Nothing New	128
ccxiv.	Gain and Gettings	128
ccxv.	Lots to be liked.	128
ccxvi.	Griefs	129
ccxvii.	Empires	129
ccxviii.	Putrefaction	129
ccxix.	Passion	129
ccxx.	The Crowd and Company	129
ccxxi.	Policy in Princes	129
ccxxii.	His Weakness in Woes	129
ccxxiii.	Man's dying-place uncertain	130
ccxxiv.	Nothing Free-cost	130
ccxxv.	Beginning, difficult	130
ccxxvi.	Rest	130
ccxxvii.	Comforts in Crosses	130
ccxxviii.	Partial-gilt Poetry	130
ccxxix.	Fear gets Force	130
ccxxx.	No man without Money	131
ccxxxi.	The present time best pleaseth	131
ccxxxii.	Bad wages for good service.	131
ccxxxiii.	Choose for the best	131

ccxxxiv.	Bad may be better	131
ccxxxv.	Rules for our reach	131
ccxxxvi.	More modest, more manly.	131
ccxxxvii.	Cruelty	132
ccxxxviii.	Clothes are Conspirators	132
ccxxxix.	Faith four-square	132
ccxl.	Fair after foul	132
ccxli.	Present Government grievous	132
ccxlii.	Patience in Princes	132
ccxliii.	Not to covet much where little is the charge	132
ccxliv.	Strength to support sovereignty	133
ccxlv.	Suspicion makes secure	133
ccxlv.	Care a good keeper	133
ccxlvii.	Seek and find	133
ccxlviii.	Multitude	133
cclix.	Rapine brings ruin	133
cel.	The first mays or makes	133
celi.	Advice the best Actor	134
celii.	Peace not permanent	134
celiii.	Moderation	134
celiv.	Caution in Council	134
celv.	Pardons	134
celvi.	Wit punished prospers most	134
celvii.	Truth and error.	134
celviii.	The Mean	135
celix.	Laws	135
celx.	Studies to be supported	135
celxi.	Conformity is comely	135
celxii.	Things mortal still mutable	135
celxiii.	Great maladies, long medicines	135
celxiv.	Fear.	135
celxv.	Obedience in subjects	136
celxvi.	More potent, less peccant	136
celxvii.	Crosses.	136
celxviii.	Miseries	136
celxix.	The Hand and Tongue	136
celxx.	The Power in the People	136

CONTENTS

lx

cclxxi.	Money gets the Mastery	136
cclxxii.	Virtue is Sensible of Suffering	137
cclxxiii.	Soft Music	137
cclxxiv.	Presence and Absence	137
cclxxv.	Bribes and Gifts get all	137
cclxxvi.	Virtue	137
cclxxvii.	Prevision, or Provision	137
cclxxviii.	Casualties	137
cclxxix.	Reverence to Riches	138
cclxxx.	Devotion makes the Deity	138
cclxxxi.	Ambition	138
cclxxxii.	Zeal required in Love	138
cclxxxiii.	The Definition of Beauty	138
cclxxxiv.	Hope Heartens	138
cclxxxv.	Some Comfort in Calamity	138
cclxxxvi.	Expenses Exhaust	139
cclxxxvii.	Sorrows Succeed	139
cclxxxviii.	Dreams	139
cclxxxix.	Treason	139
ccxc.	Two Things Odious	139
ccxci.	No Bashfulness in Begging	139
ccxcii.	Neglect	139
ccxciii.	Like Loves his Like	140
ccxciv.	The more Mighty, the more Merciful	140
ccxcv.	Twilight	140
ccxcvi.	Comfort in Calamity	140
ccxcvii.	Smart.	140
ccxcviii.	On Fortune	140
ccxcix.	False Mourning	140
ccc.	Merits make the Man	141
ccci.	Gold before Goodness	141
cccii.	Repletion	141
ccci.	Dangers Wait on Kings	141
ccci.	Event of Things not in our Power	141
ccc.	The difference betwixt Kings and Subjects	141
ccci.	Safety on the Shore	141
ccvii.	Sufferance	142

cccviii.	The Eyes	142
cccxix.	Single Life, most secure	142
cccx.	Bashfulness	142
cccxix.	Few Fortunate	142
cccxii.	Supreme Fortune falls soonest	142
cccxiii.	Hunger	142
cccxiv.	Distrust	143
cccxv.	Pleasures Pernicious	143
cccxvi.	Excess	143
cccxvii.	Recompense	143
cccxviii.	The will makes the work; consent makes the cure	143
cccxix.	Sauce for Sorrows	143
cccxix.	No danger to men desperate	143
cccxix.	Gentleness	144
cccxix.	On Love	144
cccxix.	The Soul is the Salt	144
cccxix.	Flattery	144
cccxix.	Upon Kings	144
cccxix.	A King and no King	144
cccxix.	Plots not still Prosperous	144
cccxix.	Foolishness	145
cccxix.	Truth and Falsehood	145
cccxix.	On Love	145
cccxix.	Abstinence	145
cccxix.	War	145
cccxix.	The Voice and Viol	145
cccxix.	Obedience	145
cccxix.	After Autumn, Winter	146
cccxix.	A Good Death	146
cccxix.	Sincerity	146
cccxix.	Diet	146
cccxix.	Speak in Season	146
cccxix.	The End	146
cccxix.	The End	146

ENCOMIASTIC VERSES.

cccxlii.	To his Muse	148
----------	-----------------------	-----

cccxlii.	The Poet's good wishes for the most hopeful and handsome Prince, the Duke of York	149
cccxliv.	To the Rt. Hon. Mildmay, Earl of Westmoreland.	150
cccxlv.	Upon my Ben Jonson	150
cccxlvi.	Another	151
cccxlvii.	To the Lady Mary Villars, Governess to the Princess Henrietta	151
cccxlviii.	To the Right Honourable Philip, Earl of Pembroke and Montgomery	152
cccxlix.	To the High and Noble Prince George, Duke, Marquis, and Earl of Buckingham	152
cccl.	To the Queen	153
cccli.	To the King	153
ccclii.	To his Nephew, to be prosperous in his Art of Painting	153
cccliii.	To his Peculiar Friend, Sir Edward Fish, Knight	154
cccliv.	To his Peculiar Friend, M. Thomas Shapcott .	154
ccclv.	To Mistress Mary Willand	154
ccclvi.	To the Right Gracious Prince, Lodwick Duke of Richmond and Lenox	155
ccclvii.	To his Kinsman, Sir Thomas Soame	155
ccclviii.	To his Worthy Friend, M. Tho. Falconbridge .	156
ccclix.	To his Honoured Kinsman, Sir William Soame .	156
ccclx.	To Mistress Katharine Bradshaw	157
ccclxi.	To his Faithful Friend, Master John Crofts . .	157
ccclxii.	To his Kinswoman, Miss Penelope Wheeler . .	158
ccclxiii.	Another upon her	158
ccclxiv.	To the most Learned Antiquary, M. John Selden .	158
ccclxv.	To the Patron of the Poets, M. End Porter . .	159
ccclxvi.	To the Right Honourable Edward, Earl of Dorset	159
ccclxvii.	To the King, to cure the evil	160
ccclxviii.	To his Honoured Kinsman, Sir Richard Stone .	160
ccclxix.	To the most virtuous Mistress Pot	161
ccclxx.	Upon his Kinswoman, Mistress Elizabeth Herrick	161
ccclxxi.	To Doctor Alabaster	162
ccclxxii.	To M. Laurence Sweetnam	162
ccclxxiii.	To his Worthy Kinsman, Mr. Stephen Soame .	163
ccclxxiv.	To his Honoured Friend, Sir John Mince . . .	163

ccclxxv	To his Honoured Friend, Sir Thomas Heale . .	163
ccclxxvi.	To the most accomplished gentleman, Master Edward Norgate, clerk of the signet to his Majesty	164
ccclxxvii.	To Prince Charles, upon his coming to Exeter . .	164
ccclxxviii.	To the King, upon his coming into the West . .	165
ccclxxix.	To the King	165
ccclxxx.	To his dear Valentine, Mrs. Margaret Falconbridge	166
ccclxxxi.	To his Hon. Friend, M. John Weare, Counsellor . .	166
ccclxxxii.	To the most comely and proper M. Elizabeth Finch	157
ccclxxxiii.	To the Honoured Master Endymion Porter . .	167
ccclxxxiv.	To Sir John Berkley, Governor of Exeter . . .	168
ccclxxxv.	To his Worthy Friend, M. Arthur Bartly . . .	168
ccclxxxvi.	Upon M. William Lawes, the rare musician . .	169
ccclxxxvii.	To his Honoured Friend Mr. Charles Cotton . .	169
ccclxxxviii.	To M. Leonard Willan, his Peculiar Friend . .	170
ccclxxxix.	To his Worthy Friend, M. John Hall, Student	170
cccxc.	To his Brother, Nicholas Herrick	171
cccxc.	To the most accomplished Gentleman, Master Michael Oulsworth	171
cccxcii.	The School or Pearl of Portney, the mistress of all singular manners, Mrs. Portman . . .	172
cccxciii.	To the King, upon his welcome to Hampton Court	173
cccxciv.	To his Kinsman, M. Tho. Herrick	173
cccxcv.	Ultimus Heroum; or, to the most learned, and to the Right Hon. Henry, Marquis of Dorchester.	174
cccxcvi.	To his Muse. Another to the same	174
cccxcvii.	To M. H. Lawes, the Composer of his Lyrics . .	174
cccxcviii.	To Sir George Parry, Doctor of the Civil Law . .	175
cccxcix.	To his learned friend, M. J. Harmer, Physician	175
cccc.	To his brother-in-law, Master John Wingfield . .	176
cccci.	To the handsome Mrs. Grace Potter	176
ccccii.	To his peculiar friend, M. Jo. Wicks	177
cccciii.	To the King, upon his taking of Leicester . .	177
cccciv.	To his friend, Master J. Jincks.	178
ccccv.	To the lord Hopton, on his fight in Cornwall . .	178
ccccvi.	To his sister-in-law, M. Susannah Herrick . .	178
ccccvii.	To the Earl of Westmoreland	178
ccccviii.	A Psalm or Hymn to the Graces	180

MORAL AND PATHETIC.

ccccix.	To M. Denham, on his Prospective Poem . . .	181
cccex.	To his Dying Brother, Master William Herrick . .	182
cccxi.	To Mistress Dorothy Parsons	182
cccxiil.	Upon the troublesome times	183
cccxiil.	On himself	183
cccxiv.	Upon his sister-in-law, Mrs. Elizab. Herrick . .	184
cccxv.	Upon the Bishop of Lincoln's imprisonment . .	184
cccxvi.	To Anthea	185
cccxvii.	Dean-bourn, a rude river in Devon	185
cccxxii.	To Sir Clipseby Crew	185
cccxxix.	To the King and Queen	186
cccxx.	The bad season makes the Poet sad	187
cccxxi.	Men mind no state in sickness	187
cccxxii.	His Prayer to Ben Jonson	188
cccxxxiil.	To his Tomb-maker	188
cccxxxiv.	The Poet hath lost his pipe	188
cccxxv.	To his Verses	189
cccxxvi.	To my dearest sister, M. Mercy Herrick . . .	189
cccxxvii.	To his closet gods	190
cccxxviii.	To his friend, on the unfortunate times . . .	190
cccxxix.	His Poetry his Pillar	191
cccxxx.	Safety to look to look to one's self	192
cccxxxil.	No Shipwreck of Virtue. To a Friend	192
cccxxxlii.	The Curse. A Song	192
cccxxxlii.	Four things makes us happy here	193
cccxxxiv.	To his household gods	193
cccxxxv.	Good precepts, or Counsel	193
cccxxxvi.	To Julia	194
cccxxxvii.	To his Maid Prew	194
cccxxxviii.	To Electra	194
cccxxxix.	His Alma	195
cccxl.	The Plunder	195
cccxli.	Upon his Eye-sight failing him	195
cccxlii.	A Hymn to Clipseby Crew	196
cccxliii.	A Dunge upon the death of Lord Bernard Stuart.	197

ccccxliv.	Upon his departure hence	198
ccccxlv.	Upon Himself	198
ccccxvi.	Leoprosy in clothes	199
ccccxvii.	To his Kinswoman, Mistress Susanna Herrick .	199
ccccxviii.	The Rainbow	199
ccccxlix.	The Dream	200
cccl.	The Christian Militant	200
cccli.	His Lachrymæ, or mirth turned to mourning .	201
ccclii.	On Himself	201
cccliii.	To the Yew and Cypress to grace his funeral .	202
cccliv.	On Himself	202
ccclv.	A good Husband	203
ccclvi.	On Himself	203
ccclvii.	Purposes	203
ccclviii.	Hope well and have well; or fair after foul weather	203
ccclix.	Change common to all	204
cccclx.	Comfort to a Lady upon the Death of her Husband	204
cccclxi.	His Wish to Privacy	205
cccclxii.	To Biancha	205
cccclxiii.	Content, not Cates	205
cccclxiv.	An Hymn to the Muses	206
cccclxv.	His Grace, or private wealth	208
cccclxvi.	To Fortune	207
cccclxvii.	Not every day fit for verse	208
cccclxviii.	His return to London	208
cccclxix.	The Invitation	209
cccclxx.	Proof to no purpose	210
cccclxxi.	To Silvia	210
cccclxxii.	Felicity knows no Fence	210
cccclxxiii.	The smell of the Sacrifice	211
cccclxxiv.	The Primitive to Parents	211
cccclxxv.	Like pattern like People	211
cccclxxvi.	All things decay and die	212
cccclxxvii.	A Ternarie of Littles upon a pipkin of jelly .	212
cccclxxviii.	His Answer to a Friend	212
cccclxxix.	Cheerfulness in Charity; or the sweet Sacrifice	212
cccclxxx.	On Himself	213

CONTENT.

xv.

ccccxxxi.	Life is the Body's Light	213
ccccxxxii.	Happiness to Hospitality	214
ccccxxxiii.	Haste hurtful	214
ccccxxxiv.	The Sacrifice	215
ccccxxxv.	To his Friend, to avoid contention of words	215
ccccxxxvi.	The Transfiguration	216
ccccxxxvii.	Julia's Churching, or Purification	216
ccccxxxviii.	To the Passenger	217
ccccxxxix.	Purgatory	217
cccx.	His charge to Julia at his death	217
cccxci.	Poetry perpetuates the Poet	218
cccxcii.	To Anthea	218
cccxci.	The Bed-man, or Grave maker	218
cccxci.	Crosses	218
cccxci.	The Honey-comb	219
cccxci.	Out of time or tune	219
cccxci.	Revenge	219
cccxci.	Suffer that thou canst not shift	219
cccxci.	To Julia	220
d.	Clutches	220
di.	To the reverend shade of his religious father	221
dii.	To Anthea	221
diii.	Discontents in Devon	222
dij.	To Petilla	222
dv.	Comfort to a youth that had lost his love	223
dvi.	His Desire	223
dvi.	To Perenna	224
dvi.	Conformity	224
dix.	His Cavalier	224
dx.	To Laurels	225
dxi.	To Perenna, a mistress	225
dxii.	The Plaudit, or end of Life	225
dxii.	Upon M.E. Wheeler, under the name of Amarillis	226
dxii.	His Wish	226
dxv.	To Robin Red-breast	226
dxvi.	Fair shows deceive	227
dxvii.	The Beggar	227

dxviii.	His Change	227
dxix.	The Mad Maid's Song	228
dxæ.	A Vow to Mars	229
dxxi.	Upon Man	229
dxxiî.	Even-Song	229
dxxiîi.	Liberty	230
dxxiv,	No want where there's little	230
dxxv.	Clemency	230
dxxvi.	Pray and prosper	230
dxxvii.	Upon Prudence Baldwin, her sickness	231
dxxviii.	Upon Julia's Alms	231
dxix.	To the Nightingale and Robin Red-breast	231
dxxx.	To Julia in the Temple	231
dxxxi.	Matins, or Morning Prayer	232
dxxxii.	Littleness no cause of leanness	232
dxxxiii.	The coming of good-luck	232
dxxxiv.	Upon the loss of his finger	232
dxxxv.	His content in the Country	233
dxxxvi.	On Himself	233
dxxxvii.	His Winding-sheet	234
dxxxviii.	The Mount of the Muses	235
dxxxix.	On Himself	235
dxl.	To the Lady Crew, upon the death of her Child	236
dxli.	His Wish	236
dxlii.	A Mean in our Means	236
dxliiî.	On Himself	236
dxliv.	To Springs and Fountains	237
dxlv.	The Watch	237
dxlvi.	Rest refreshes	237
dxlvii.	The End of his Work	237
dxlviii.	To crown it	238
dxlix.	His Pillar of Fame	238

PASTORAL AND DESCRIPTIVE.

I.

TO HIS MUSE.

Were I to give thee Baptism, I would choose
To christen thee the bride, the bashful muse,
Or muse of roses; since that name does fit
Best with those virgin veiges thou hast writ;
Which are so clean, so chaste, as none may fear
Cato the Censor, should he scan each here.



PASTORAL AND DESCRIPTIVE.

II.

HOW THE WALL-FLOWER CAME FIRST,
AND WHY SO CALLED.

Why this flower is now call'd so,
List, sweet maids, and you shall know.
Understand, this firstling was
Once a brisk and bonny lass,
Kept as close as Danae was ;
Who a sprightly Springall lov'd :
And to have it fully prov'd,
Up she got upon a wall,
Tempting down to slide withal ;
But the silken twist untied,
So she fell ; and bruis'd, she dy'd.
Love, in pity, of the deed,
And her loving luckless speed,
Turn'd her to this plant, we call
Now The Flower of the Wall.

III.

A PARANÆTICAL, OR ADVISIVE VERSE, TO HIS FRIEND,
MR. JOHN WICKS.

Is this a life, to break thy sleep
To rise as soon as day doth peep,
To tire thy patient ox or ass
By noon, and let thy good days pass;
Not knowing this, that Jove decrees
Some mirth, t'adulce man's miseries?
No; 'tis a life to have thine oil
Without extortion from thy soil;
Thy faithful fields to yield thee grain,
Although with some, yet little pain;
To have thy mind and nuptial bed,
With fears and cares uncumbered;
A pleasing wife, that by thy side
Lies softly panting like a bride;
This is to live, and to endear
Those minutes time has lent us here.
Then, while fates suffer, live thou free,
As is that air that circles thee;
And crown thy temples too; and let
Thy servant, not thy own self, sweat,
To strut thy barns with sheafs of wheat
Time steals away like to a stream,
And we glide hence away with them:
No sound recalls the hours once fled,
Or roses, being withered;
Nor us, my friend, when we are lost,
Like to a dew, or melted frost.
Then live we mirthful while we should,

And turn the iron age to gold ;
 Let's feast and frolic, sing and play,
 And thus less last, than live our day.
 Whose life with care is overcast,
 'That man's not said to live, but last ;
 Nor is't a life, seven years to tell,
 But for to live that half seven well ;
 And that we'll do, as men who know,
 Some few sands spent, we hence must go,
 Both to be blended in the urn,
 From whence there's never a return.

IV.

TO DAISES, NOT TO SHUT SO SOON.

Shut not so soon : the dull-ey'd night
 Has not as yet begun
 To make a seizure on the light,
 Or to seal up the sun.

No marigolds yet closed are,
 No shadows yet appear :
 Nor doth the early shepherd's star
 Shine like a spangle here.

Stay but till my Julia close
 Her life-begetting eye ;
 And let the whole world then dispose
 Itself to live, or die.

V.

CORINNA'S GOING A MAYING.

et up, get up; for shame, the blooming morn
 'pon her wings presents the god unshorn.
 See how Aurora throws her fair
 Fresh-quilted colours through the air;
 Get up, sweet slug-a-bed, and see
 The dew bespangling herb and tree.
 Each flower has wept, and bow'd toward the east,
 Above an hour since, yet you not drest,
 Nay! not so much as out of bed;
 When all the birds have matins said,
 And sung their thankful hymns; 'tis sin,
 Nay, profanation to keep in,
 When as a thousand virgins on this day
 Pring, sooner than the lark, to fetch in May.

 Rise, and put on your foliage, and be seen
 To come forth, like the spring-time, fresh and green
 And sweet as Flora. Take no care
 For jewels for your gown or hair;
 Fear not, the leaves will strew
 Gems in abundance upon you;
 Besides the childhood of the day has kept
 Against you come, some orient pearls unwept.
 Come, and receive them while the light
 Hangs on the dew-locks of the night;
 And Titan on the eastern hill
 Retires himself, or else stands still
 Till you come forth. Wash, dress, be brief in praying
 Few beads are best, when once we go a Maying.

Come, my Corinna, come, and coming, mark
 How each field turns a street, each street a park
 Made green, and trimmed with trees, see how
 Devotion gives each house a bough,
 Or branch ; each porch, each door, ere this,
 An ark, a tabernacle is,
 Made up of white-thorn neatly interwove ;
 As if here were those cooler shades of love.
 Can such delights be in the street
 And open fields, and we not see it ?
 Come, we'll abroad, and let's obey
 The proclamation made for May :
 And sin no more, as we have done, by staying ;
 But, my Corinna, come, let's go a Maying.

'There's not a budding boy or girl, this day,
 But is got up, and gone to bring in May.
 A deal of youth, ere this, is come
 Back, and with white-thorn, laden home.
 Some have dispatched their cakes and cream
 Before that we have left to dream ;
 And some have wept, and wooed, and plighted troth,
 And chose their priest, ere we can cast off sloth ;
 Many a green-gown has been given ;
 Many a kiss both odd and even ;
 Many a glance too has been sent
 From out the eye, love's firmament ;
 Many a jest told of the key's betraying
 This night, and locks picked, yet w're not a Maying
 Come, let us go, while we are in our prime,
 And take the harmless folly of the time.

We shall grow old apace and die
 Before we know our liberty.
 Our life is short, and our days run
 As fast away as does the sun ;
 And as a vapour, or a drop of rain
 Once lost, can ne'er be found again ;
 So when or you or I are made
 A fable, song, or fleeting shade ;
 All love, all liking, all delight
 Lics drowned with us in endless night,
 Then while time serves, and we are but decaying.
 Come, my Corinna, come, let's go a Maying.

VI.

THE MEADOW VERSE,

OR ANNIVERSARY OF MRS. BRIDGET LOWMAN.

Come with the spring-time forth, fair maid ; and be
 This year again the meadow's deity :
 Yet, ere ye enter, give us leave to set
 Upon your head this flow'ry coronet :
 To make this neat distinction from the rest,
 You are the prime and princess of the feast,
 To which with silver feet lead you the way,
 While sweet-breath nymphs attend on you this day ;
 This is your hour ; and best you may command,
 Since you are lady of this fairy land :
 Full mirth wait on you ; and such mirth as shall
 Cherish the cheek, but make none blush at all !

VII.

A COUNTRY LIFE ;

TO HIS BROTHER, M. THO. HERRICK.

Thrice, and above blest, my soul's half, art thou,
 In thy both last and better vow ;
 Could'st leave the city, for exchange, to see
 The country's sweet simplicity ;
 And it to know and practice, with intent
 To grow the sooner innocent ;
 By studying to know virtue, and to aim
 More at her nature than her name ;
 The last is but the least, the first doth tell
 Ways less to live than to live well ;
 And both are known to thee, who now can'st live
 Led by thy conscience, to give
 Justice to some-pleased nature, and to show
 Wisdom and she together go,
 And keep one centre ; this with that conspires
 To teach man to confine desires,
 And know that riches have their proper stint
 In the contented mind, not mint ;
 And can'st instruct that those, who have the itch
 Of craving more are never rich.
 These things thou knowest to the height, and dost
 prevent
 That plague, because thou art content
 With that Heaven gave thee with a weary hand,
 (More blessed in thy brass than land)

To keep cheap Nature even and upright;
 To cool, not cocker appetite.
 Thus thou canst scarcely live to satisfy
 The belly chiefly, not the eye;
 Keeping the barking stomach wisely quiet,
 Less with a neat than needful diet.
 But that which most makes sweet a country life,
 Is the fruition of a wife,
 Whom, stars consenting with thy fate, thou hast
 Got not so beautiful as chaste;
 By whose warm side thou dost securely sleep,
 While love the sentinel doth keep,
 With those deeds done by day which ne'er affright
 Thy silken slumbers in the night.
 Nor has the darkness power to usher in
 Fear to those sheets that know no sin.
 But still thy wife, by chaste intentions led,
 Gives thee each night a maidenhead.
 The damask meadows and the pebbly streams
 Sweeten and make soft your dreams;
 The purling springs, groves, birds, and well weaved
 bowers,
 With fields enamelled with flowers,
 Present their shapes, while phantasy discloses
 Millions of Lilies mixt with Roses.
 Then dream ye hear the lamb by many a bleat
 Woo'd to come suck the milky teat;
 While Faunus in the vision comes, to keep
 From ravening wolves, the fleecy sheep.
 With thousand such enchanting dreams, that men
 To make sleep not so sound, as sweet;

Nor can these figures so thy rest endear,
 As not to rise when Chanticleer
 Warns the last watch, but with the dawn dost rise
 To work, but first to sacrifice;
 Making thy peace with heaven for some late fault,
 With holy-meal and spiriting salt;
 Which done, thy painful thumb this sentence tell us,
 "Jove for our labour all things sells us."
 Nor are thy daily and devout affairs,
 Attended with those desperate cares
 The industrious merchant has, who for to find
 Gold, runneth to the Western Indt,
 And back again; tortured with fears, doth fly,
 Untaught to suffer poverty;
 But thou at home, blest with securest ease,
 Sittest, and believest that there be seas,
 And watry dangers, while thy whither hap
 But sees these things within thy map;
 And viewing them with a more safe survey,
 Makest easy fear unto thee say,
 "A heart thrice walled with oak and brass, that man
 Had, first durst plough the ocean."
 But thou at home, without or tide or gale,
 Canst in thy map securely sail;
 Seeing those painted countries, and so guess
 By those fine shades their substances;
 And from thy compass taking small advice,
 Buyest travel at the lowest price;
 Nor are thine ears so deaf but thou canst hear,
 Far more with wonder than with fear,
 Fane tell of states, of countries, courts, and kings;
 And believe there be such things;

When, of these truths thy happier knowledge lies,
 More in thine ears than in thine eyes.
 And when thou hearest by too true report,
 Vice rules the most, on all at court ;
 Thy pious wishes are, though thou not there,
 Virtue had, and moved her sphere.
 But thou livest fearless ; and thy face ne'er shows
 Fortune when she comes, or goes ;
 But with thy equal thoughts prepared, dost stand
 To take her by the either hand ;
 Nor carest which comes the first, the foul or fair.
 A wise man every way lies square ;
 And like a surly oak with storms perplexed,
 Grows still the stronger, strongly vexed.
 Be so, bold spirit ; stand centre-like, unmoved ;
 And be not only thought, but proved
 To be what I report thee, and inure
 Thyself, if want comes to endure ;
 And so thou dost ; for thy desires are
 Confined to live with private Larr ;
 Nor curious whether appetite be fed,
 Or with the first or second bread.
 Who keepest no proud mouth for delicious cates ;
 Hunger makes coarse meats delicates.
 Canst, and unurged, forsake that larded fare,
 Which art, not nature makes so rare ;
 To taste boiled nettles, coleworts, beets, and eat
 These, and sour herbs as dainty meat ?
 While soft opinion makes thy genius say,
 " Content makes all ambrosia ;"
 Nor is it that thou keepest this stricter size
 So much for want as exercise ;

To numb the sense of dearth, which should sin haste it.

Thou might'st but only see it, not taste it ;

Yet can thy humble roof maintain a quire

Of singing crickets by thy fire ;

And the brisk mouse may feast herself with crumbs,

Till that the green-eyed kitling comes ;

Then to her cabin, blest she can escape

The sudden danger of a rape ;

And thus thy little well kept stock doth prove,

Wealth cannot make a life, but love.

Nor art thou so close-handed, but can'st spend,

(Counsel concurring with the end) ,

As well as spare ; still conning o'er this theme,

To shun the first and last extreme ;

Ordaining that thy small stock find no breach,

Or to exceed thy tether's reach ;

But to live round, and close, and wisely true

• To thine own self, and known to few.

Thus let thy rural sanctuary be

Elysium to thy wife and thee ;

There to disport yourselves with golden measure ;

For seldom use commends the pleasure.

Live, and live blest ; thrice happy pair ; let breath,

• But lost to one, be the other's death :

And as there is one love, one faith, one troth,

Be so one death, one grave to both ;

Till when, in such assurance live ye may

Nor fear, or wish your dying day.

VIII.

A BUCOLIC, OR DISCOURSE OF NEAT-HERDS.

1. Come, blithful neat-herds, let us lay
A wager, who the best shall play,
Of thee, or I, the roundelay,
That fits the business of the day.

CHORUS.

And Lallage the judge shall be,
To give the prize to thee or me.

2. Content, begin, and I will bet
A heifer smooth, and black as jet.
In every part alike complete,
And wanton as a kid as yet.

CHORUS.

And Lallage, with cow-like eyes,
Shall be disposeress of the prize.

1. Against thy heifer I will here
Lay to thy stake a lusty steer,
With gilded horns and burnish'd clear.

CHORUS.

Why then begin, and let us hear
The soft, the sweet, the mellow note
That gently purls from either's oat

2. The stakes are laid; let's now apply
Each one to make his melody;

LALLAGE.

The equal empire shall be I,
Who'll hear, and so judge righteously.

CHORUS.

Much time is spent in prate; begin,
And sooner play, the sooner win. [*He plays.*]

1. That's sweetly touch'd ; I must confess
 Thou art a man of worthiness,
 But hark how I can now express
 My love unto my neat-herdess. [*He sings.*]

CHORUS.

A sugar'd note, and sound as sweet
 As kine, when they at milking meet.

1. Now for to win thy heifer fair,
 I'll strike thee such a nimble air,
 That thou shalt say, thyself, tis rare ;
 And title me without compare.

CHORUS.

Lay by awhile your pipes, and rest,
 Since both have here deserved best.

2. To get thy steerling once again,
 I'll play thee such another strain,
 That thou shalt swear, my pipe does reign
 Over thine oat, as sovereign. [*He sings.*]

CHORUS.

- And Lallage shall tell by this,
 Whose now the prize and wager is.

1. Give me the prize.

2. The day is mine.

1. Not so ; my pipe has silenc'd thine ;
 And hadst thou wager'd twenty kine,
 They were mine own.

LALLAGE.

- In love combine.

CHORUS.

And lay we down our pipes together,
 As weary, not o'ercome by either.

IX.

PIS TEARS TO THAMASIS.

I send, I send here my supremest kiss,
 To thee, my silver-footed Thamasis :
 No more shall I reiterate thy strand,
 Whereon so many stately structures stand ;
 Nor in the summer's sweeter evenings go,
 To bathe in thee, as thousand others do ;
 No more shall I along thy crystal glide
 In barge, with boughs and rushes beautified,
 With soft smooth virgins, for our chaste disport,
 To Richmond, Kingston, and to Hampton Court .
 Never again shall I with finny oar
 Put from, or draw unto the faithful shore ;
 And landing here, or safely landing there,
 Make way to my beloved Westminster ;
 Or to the golden Cheapside, where the earth
 Of Julia Herrick gave to me my birth .
 May all clean nymphs and curious water dames,
 With swan like state, float up and down thy streams ;
 No drought upon thy wanton waters fall,
 To make them lean and languishing at all ;
 No ruffling winds come hither to disease
 Thy pure and silver-wristed Naides .
 Keep up your state, ye streams ; and as ye spring,
 Never make sick your banks by surfeiting ;
 Grow young with tides, and though I see ye never,
 Receive this vow ; so fare ye well for ever .

X.

A RUCOLIC BETWEEN TWO; LACON AND THYRSIS.

LACON.

For a kiss or two, confess,
 What doth cause this pensiveness
 Thou most lovely neat-herdess?
 Why so lonely on the hill;
 Why thy pipe by thee so still,
 That ere while was heard so shrill?

Tell me, do thy kine now fail
 To fulfil the milking-pail?
 Say what is't that thou do'st ail?

THYRSIS.

'None of these; but out, alas!
 A mischance is come to pass,
 And I'll tell thee what it was:
 Sec, mine eyes are weeping ripe.

LACON

Tell, and I'll lay down my pipe.

THYRSIS.

I have lost my lovely steer,
 That to me was far more dear
 Than these kine which I milk here;
 Broad of forehead, large of eye,
 Party colour'd like a pie,
 Smooth in each limb as a die;

Clear of hoof, and clear of horn,
 Sharply pointed as a thorn ;
 With a neck by yoke unwork,
 From the which, hung down by strings,
 Balls of cowslips, daisy rings,
 Interlac'd with ribbanings ;
 Faultless every way for shape,
 Not a straw could him escape,
 Ever gamesome as an ape,
 But yet harmless as a sheep.
 Pardon, Lacon, if I weep ;
 Tears will spring where woes are deep.
 Now, ah me ! ah me ! Last night
 Came a mad dog, and did bite,
 I, and kill'd my dear delight.

•
 LACON.

Alack, for grief !

•
 THYRSIS.

But I'll be brief.

Hence I must, for time doth call
 Me, and my sad playmates all,
 To his ev'ning funeral.
 Live long, Lacon ; so adieu !

•
 LACON.

Mournful maid, farewell to you ;
 Earth afford ye flowers to strew !

XI.

THE COUNTRY LIFE,

TO THE HONOURED MR. END. PORTER,
GROOM OF THE BED-CHAMBER TO HIS MAJESTY.

Sweet country life, to such unknown,
Whose lives are others, not their own;
But, serving courts and cities, be
Less happy, less enjoying thee.
Thou never plough'st the ocean's foam
To seek and bring rough pepper home;
Nor to the Eastern Ind dost rove
To bring from thence the scorched clove,
Nor, with the loss of thy lov'd rest,
Bring'st home the ingot from the west;
No, thy ambition's master-piece
Flies no thought higher than a fleece;
Or how to pay thy hinds, and clear
All scores, and so to end the year;
But walk'st about thine own dear bounds,
Not envying others' larger grounds;
For well thou know'st, 'tis not the extent
Of land makes life, but sweet content.
When now the cock, the plough-man's horn,
Calls forth the lily-wristed morn;
Then to thy corn-fields thou dost go,
Which, though well soil'd, yet thou dost know,
That the best compost for the lands
Is the wise master's feet and hands:
There at the plough thou find'st thy team,
With a hind whistling there to them:

And cheer'st them up by singing how
 The kingdom's portion is the plough;
 This done, then to the enamel'd heads
 Thou go'st, and as thy foot there treads,
 Thou seest a present God-like power
 Imprinted in each herb and flower;
 And smell'st the breath of great-ey'd kine
 Sweet as the blossoms of the vine;
 Here thou behold'st thy large sleek neat
 Unto the dew-laps up in meat;
 And as thou look'st, the wanton steer,
 The heifer, cow, and ox draw near,
 To make a pleasing pastime there;
 These seen, thou go'st to view thy flocks
 Of sheep, safe from the wolf and fox,
 And find'st their bellies there as full
 Of short sweet grass, as backs with wool;
 And leav'st them, as they feed and fill,
 A shepherd piping on a hill.
 For sports, for pageantry, and plays,
 Thou hast thy eves and holidays;
 On which the young men and maids meet
 To exercise their dancing feet,
 Tripping the comely country round,
 With daffodils and daisies crown'd.
 Thy wakes, thy quintels, here thou hast,
 Thy May-poles too with garlands grac'd,
 Thy morris-dance, thy Whitsun ale,
 Thy sheering-feast, which never fail,
 Thy harvest home, thy wassail bowl,
 That's tost up after Fox-i'-th'-hole,
 Thy mummeries, thy twelfth-tide kings

And queens, thy Christmas revellings,
 Thy nut-brown mirth, thy russet wit,
 And no man pays too dear for it :
 To these thou hast thy times to go
 And trace the hare i' th' treacherous snow;
 Thy witty wiles to draw, and get
 The lark into the trammel net;
 Thou hast thy cockwood and thy glade
 To take the precious pheasant made;
 Thy lime-twigs, snares, and pit-falls then
 To catch the pilfering birds, not men.
 O happy life ! if that their good
 The husbandmen but understood;
 Who all the day themselves do please,
 And younglings, with such sports as these;
 And, lying down, have nought t' affright
 Sweet sleep, that makes more short the night.

Cætera desunt—

XII.

HOW VIOLETS CAME BLUE.

Love on a day, wise poets tell,
 Some time in wrangling spent,
 Whether the violets should excel,
 Or she, in sweetest scent.

But Venus having lost the day,
 Poor girls, she fell on you,
 And beat ye so, as some dare say,
 Her blows did make ye blue.

XIII.

THE HOCK-CART, OR HARVEST-HOME.

TO THE RIGHT HONORABLE MILDENAY, EARL OF
WESTMORELAND.

• Come sons of summer ; by whose toil
We are the lords of wine, and oil ;
By whose tough labours, and rough hands,
We rip up first, then reap our lands :
Crown'd with the ears of corn, now come,
And to the pipe sing harvest home.
Come forth, my lord, and see the cart
Drest up with all the country art :
See here a maukin ; there a sheet
As spotless, pure, as it is sweet ;
The horses, mares, and frisking fillies,
Clad all in linen white as lilies ;
The harvest swains, and wenches bound
For joy, to see the hock-cart crown'd :
About the cart, hear, how the rout
Of rural younglings raise the shout,
Pressing before, some coming after,
Those with a shout, and these with laughter :
Some bless the cart, some kiss the sheaves,
Some prank them up with oaken leaves ;
Some cross the fill-horses, some with great
Devotion stroke the home-borne wheat ;
While other rustics, less attent
To prayers than to merriment,
Run after with their breeches rent.
Well, on, brave boys, to your lord's hearth,
Glitt'ring with fire, where, for your mirth,

Ye shall see first the large and chief
 Foundation of your feast, fat beef ;
 With upper stories, mutton, veal,
 And bacon, which makes full the meal ;
 With sev'ral Vishes standing by,
 As here a custard, there a pie,
 And here all-tempting frumenty :
 And, for to make the merry cheer,
 If sinirking wine be wanting here,
 There's that which drowns all care, stout beer ;
 Which freely drink to your Lord's health,
 Then to the plough the commonwealth ;
 Next to your flails, your flumes, your fatts,
 Then to the maids with wheaten hats,
 To the rough sickle, and the crook'd scythe,
 Drink, frolic boys, till all be blithe :
 Feed, and grow fat ; and, as ye eat,
 Be mindful that the lab'ring neat,
 As you, may have their full of meat :
 And know, besides, ye must revoke
 The patient ox unto the yoke ;
 And all go back unto the plough
 And harrow, though they're hang'd up now :
 And, you must know your lord's word's true,
 " Feed him ye must, whose food fills you : "
 And that this pleasure is like rain,
 Not sent ye for to drown your pain,
 But for to make it spring again.

XIV.

HIS AGE.

DEDICATED TO HIS PECULIAR FRIEND, MR. JOHN WICKES,
UNDER THE NAME OF POSTHUMOUS.

Ah, Posthumous ! our years hence fly,
And leave no sound : nor piety,
Or prayers, or vow,^e
Can keep the wrinkle from the brow;^e
But we must on,
As fate does lead or draw us. None,^e
None, Posthumous, could e'er decline
The doom of cruel Proserpine.

The pleasing wife, the house, the ground
Must all be left ; no one plant found
To follow thee,
Save only the curs'd cypress tree.
A merry mind
Looks forward, scorns what's left behind :
Lets live, my Wickes then, while we may
And here enjoy our holiday.

We've seen the past, best times ; and these
Will ne'er return : we see the seas,
And moons to wane ;
But they fill up their ebbs again :
But vanish'd man,
Like to a lily lost, ne'er can,^e
Ne'er can, repullulate, or bring
His days to see a second spring.

But on we must; and thither tend
 Where Ancus, and rich Tullus blend
 Their sacred seed:
 Thus has infernal Jove decreed:

 We must be made
 Ere long a song, ere long a shade.
 Why then, since life to us is short,
 Lets make it full up by our sport.

Crown we our heads with roses then,
 And 'noint with Syrian balm; for when
 We two are dead,

The world with us is buried:
 Then live we free
 As is the air, and let us be
 Our own fair wind, and mark each one
 Day with the white and lucky stone.

We are not poor; although we have
 No roofs of cedar, nor our brave
 Bairn, nor keep
 Account of such a flock of sheep,
 Nor bullocks fed

To lard the shambles; barbles bred
 To kiss our hands, nor do we wish
 For Pollio's lampries in our dish.

If we can meet, and so confer
 Both by a shining saltcellar;
 And have our roof,
 Although not arch'd, yet weather-proof;
 And ceiling free
 From that cheap candle-bawdry;

We'll eat our bean with that full'nirth,
As we were lords of all the earth.

Well then ; on what seas we ar' tost,
Our comfort is, we can't be lost.

Let the winds drive
Our bark, yet she will keep alive

Amidst the deeps
'Tis constancy, my Wickes, which keeps
The pinnacle up ; which, though she errs
I'th' seas, she saves her passengers.

Say, we must part ; sweet mercy bless
Us both i'th' sea, camp, wilderness !

Can we so far
Stray, to become less circular
Than we are now ?

No, no ; that selfsame heart, that vow
Which made us one shall ne'er undo,
Or ravel, so to make us two.

Live in thy peace ; as for myself,
When I am bruised on the shelf

Of time, and show
My locks behung with frost and snow ;
When with the rheum,
The cough, the phthisick, I consume
Unto an almost nothing ; then
The ages fled I'll call again :

And with a tear compare these last
Lame, and bad times with those are past ;

While Baucis by,
My old lean wife, shall kiss it dry:

And so we'll sit
By the fire, forgetting snow, and sleet,<
And weather, by our aches, grown
Now old enough to be our own

True calendars; as puss's ear
Wash'd o'er's, to tell what change is near.

Then, to assuage
The gripings of the chine by age,
I'll call my young

Iulus to sing such a song
I made upon my Julia's breast,
And of her blush at such a feast:

Then shall he read that flow'r of mine
Inclos'd within a crystal shrine;

A primrose next:
A piece then of a higher text,
For to beget

In me a more transcendant heat,
Than that insinuating fire
Which crept into each aged sire,

When the fair Helen from her eyes
Shot forth her loving sorceries;

At which I'll rear
Mine aged limbs above my chair;
And, hearing it,

Flutter and crow, as in a fit
Of fresh concupiscence, and cry,
"No lust there's like to poetry!"

Thus frantic crazy man, God wot
 I'll call to mind things half forgot;
 And oft between
 Repeat the times that I have sinned.
 Thus ripe with tears,
 And twisting my Iulus' hairs,
 Doting I'll weep and say, in truth,
 "Baucis, these were my sins of youth."

Then next I'll cause my hopeful lad,
 If a wild apple can be had,
 To crown the hearth;
 Let this conspiring with our mirth;
 Then to infuse
 Our browner ale into the cruse,
 Which sweetly spiced, we'll first carouse
 Unto the genius of the house;

Then the next health to friends of mine,
 Loving the brave Burgundian wine,
 High sons of pith,
 Whose fortunes I have frolick'd with,
 Such as could well
 Bear up the magic bough and spell,
 And, dancing 'bout the mystic thyrse,
 Give up the just applause to verse.

To those, and then again to thee
 We'll drink, my Wickes; until we be
 Plump as the cherry,
 Though not so fresh, yet full as merry
 As the cricket,
 The untam'd heifer, or the pricket;

Until our tongues shall tell our ears,
We're younger by a score of years :

Thus, 'till we see the fire less shine
From th' embers than the kitling's eyne,

We'll still sit up,
Sphering about the wassail cup
To all those times

Which gave me honour for my rhymes :
The coal once spent, we'll then to bed,
Far more than night bewearied.

XV.

TO CHERRY BLOSSOMS.

Ye may simper, blush, and smile,
'And perfume the air awhile ;
But, sweet things, ye must be gone ;
Fruit, ye know, is coming on :
Then, ah ! then, where is your grace,
When as cherries come in place ?

XVI.

• HOW ROSES CAME RED.

'Tis said as Cupid danc'd among
The gods, he down the nectar flung ;
Which, on the white rose being shed,
Made it for ever after red.

XVII.

TO MEADOWS

Ye have been fresh, and green;
 Ye have been fill'd with flow'rs;
 And ye the walks have been,
 Where maids have spent their hours.

You have beheld, how they
 With wicker arks did come,
 To kiss and bear away
 The richer cowslips home.

You've heard them sweetly sing,
 And seen them in a round;
 Each virgin like a spring,
 With honeysuckles crown'd.

But now we see none here,
 Whose silv'ry feet did tread,
 And with dishevell'd hair
 Adorn'd this smoother mead.

Like unthrifts, having spent
 Your stock, and needy grown,
 You're left here to lament
 Your poor estate alone.

XVIII.

A PASTORAL UPON THE BIRTH OF PRINCE CHARLES,
PRESENTED TO THE KING, AND SET BY MR. NIC.
LANIERE.

The Speakers, Mirtillo, Amintas, and Amarillis.

Amin. Good day, Mirtillo. *Mirt.* And to you no less;
And all fair signs led on our shepherdess.

Amar. With all white luck to you. *Mirt.* But say,
What news
Stirs in our sheep-walk? *Amin.* None, save that my
ewes,

My wethers, lambs, and wanton kids are well,
Smooth, fair, and fat, none better I can tell:
Or that this day Menalchas keeps a feast
For his sheep-shearers. *Mirt.* These things are the
least.

But dear Amintas, and sweet Amarillis,
Rest but a while here by this bank of lilies;
And lend a gentle care to one report
The country has. *Amin.* From whence? *Amar.* From
whence? *Mirt.* The Court.

Three days before the shutting in of May,
(With whitest wool be ever crowned that day!)
To all our joy a sweet fac'd child was born,
More tender than the childhood of the morn.

Chor. Pan pipe to him, and bleats of lambs and
sheep,
Let lullaby the pretty prince asleep.

Mirt. And that his birth should be more singular
 At noon of day was seen a silver star
 Bright as the wise men's torch, which guided them
 To God's sweet babe, when born at Bethlehem;
 While golden angels, some have told to me,
 Sung out his birth with heavenly minstrelsy.

Amin. O rare! But is it a trespass, if we three
 Should wend along his babyship to see?

Mirt. Not so, not so. *Chor.* But if it chance to
 prove

At most a fault, it is but a fault of love.

Amar. But dear Mirtillo, I have heard it told,
 Those learned men brought incenso, myrrh, and
 gold,

From countries far, with store of spices sweet,
 And laid them down for offerings at his feet.

Mirt. 'Tis true, indeed; and each of us will bring
 Unto our smiling and our blooming King,
 A neat, though not so great an offering.

Amar. A garland for my gift shall be,
 Of flowers ne'er suck'd by the thieving bee;
 And all most sweet, yet all less sweet than he.

Amin. And I will bear along with you
 Leaves dropping down the honeyed dew,
 With oaten pipes, as sweet as new.

Mirt. And I a sheep-hook will bestow
 To have his little King-ship know,
 As he is prince, he is shepherd too.

Chor. Come let's away, and quickly let's be dress'd;
 And quickly give, the swiftest grace is best.
 And when before him we have laid our treasures,
 We'll bless the babe, then back to country pleasures.

XIX.

A PANEYGERIC TO SIR LEWIS PEMBERTON.

Till I shall come again, let this suffice,
 I send my salt, my sacrifice
 To thee, thy lady, younglings, and as far
 As to thy genius and thy larr;
 To the worn threshold, porch, hall, parlour, kitchen,
 The fat-fed smoking temple, which in
 The wholesome savour of thy mighty chimes,
 Invites to supper him who dines,
 Where laden spits, warp'd with large ribs of beef,
 Not represent, but give relief
 To the lank stranger and the sour swain,
 Where both may feed and come again;
 For no black-bearded vigil from thy door
 Beats with a button'd-staff the poor;
 But from thy warm love-hatching gates, each may
 Take friendly morsels, and there stay
 To sun his thin-clad members, if he likes,
 For thou no porter keep'st who strikes.
 No comer to thy roof his guest-rite wants;
 Or, strying there, is scourg'd with taunts
 Of some rough groom, who, yirk'd with corns, says, Sir,
 You've dipt too long i'h' vinegar;
 And with our broth and bread and bits, Sir friend,
 You've fared well, pray make an end;
 Two days you've larded here, a third, you know,
 Makes guests and fish smell strong; pray go
 You to some other chimney, and there take
 Essay of other giblets; make

Merry at another's hearth ! you're here
 Welcome as thunder to our beer ;
 Manners knows distance, and a man unrude
 Would soon reconcile, and not intrude
 His stomach to a second meal. No, no,
 Thy house, well fed and taught, can show
 No such crabbed visard : Thou hast learnt thy train
 With heart and hand to entertain ;
 And by the armsful, with a breast unhid,
 As the old race of mankind did,
 When either's heart, and either's hand did strive
 To be the nearer relative ;
 Thou dost redeem those times ; and what was lost
 Of ancient honesty, may boast
 It keeps a growth in thee, and so will run
 A course in thy false's pledge, thy son.
 Thus, like a Roman Tribune, thou thy gate
 Early sets ope to feast, and late ;
 Keeping no currish waiter to affright,
 With blasting eye, the appetite,
 Which fain would waste upon thy cates, but that
 The trencher creature marketh what
 Best and more suppling piece he cuts, and by
 Some private pinch tells danger's nigh,
 A hand too desperate, or a knife that bites
 Skin deep into the pork, or lights
 Upon some part of kid, as if mistook,
 When checked by the butler's look.
 No, no, thy bread, thy wine, thy jocund beer
 Is not reserv'd for Trebius here,
 But all who at thy table seated are,
 Find equal freedom, equal fare ;

And thou, like ~~to~~ that hospitable god,
 Jove, joy'st when guests make their abode
 To eat thy bullock's thighs, thy veals, thy fat
 Wethers, and never grudging at.
 The pheasant, partridge, godwit, reeve, ruff, rail,
 The cock, the curlew, and the quail;
 These, and thy choicest viands do extend
 Their taste unto the lower end
 Of thy glad table; not a dish more known
 To thee, than unto any one;
 But as thy meat, so thy immortal wine
 Makes the smirk face of each to shine.
 And spring fresh rosebuds, while the salt, the wit
 Flows from the wine, and graces it;
 While reverence, waiting at the bashful board,
 Honours my lady and my lord.
 No scurrile jest, no open scene is laid
 Here, for to make the face afraid;
 But temp'rate mirth dealt forth, and so discreet-
 Ly, that it makes the meat more sweet,
 And adds perfumes unto the wine, which thou
 Do'st rather pour forth, than allow
 By cruse and measure; thus devoting wine
 As the Canary isles were thine;
 But with that wisdom and that method, as
 No one that's there has guilty glass
 Drinks of distemper, or has cause to cry
 Repentance to his liberty.
 No, thou know'st order, ethics, and has read
 All economics, know'st to lead
 A house-dance neatly, and can'st truly show
 How far a figure ought to go,

Forward or backward, sideward, and what pace
 Can give, and what retract a grace;
 What gesture, courtship, comeliness agrees,
 With those thy primitive decrees,
 To give subsistence to thy house, and prove,
 What genii support thy roof,
 Goodness and greatness, not the oaken piles;
 For these, and marbles have their whiles
 To last, but not their ever; virtue's hand
 It is which builds 'gainst fate to stand.
 Such is thy house, whose firm foundations trust
 Is more in thee than in her dust,
 Or depth; these last may yield, and yearly shrink
 When what is strongly built, no chink
 Or yawning rupture can the same devour,
 But fix'd it stands, by her own power,
 And well-laid bottom, on the iron and rock,
 Which tries and counter-stands the shock,
 And ram of time, and by vexation grows
 The stronger. Virtue dies when foes
 Are wanting to her exercise, but great
 And large she spreads by dust and sweat.
 Safe stand thy walls, and thee, and so both will,
 Since neither's height was rais'd by th' ill
 Of others: since no stud, no stone, no piece
 Was rear'd up by the poor man's fleece;
 No widow's tenement was rack'd to gild
 Or fret thy ceiling, or to build
 A sweating-closet, to arbid the silk-
 Soft skin, or bathe in asses' milk;
 No orphan's pittance, left him, serv'd to set
 The pillars up of lasting jet,

For which their cries might beat against thine ears,
 Or in the dāmp jet read their tears.
 No plank from hallowed altar does appeal
 To yond' Star-chamber, or does seal
 A curse to thee, or thine ; but all things even
 Make for thy peace, and pace to heaven.
 Go on directly so, as just men may,
 A thousand times, more swear, than say,
 This is that princely Pemberton, who can
 Teach man to keep a God in man ;
 And when wise poets shall search out to see
 Good men. they find them all in thee—

XXI

HOW LILIES CAME WHITE.

White though ye be ; yet, lilies, know,
 From the first ye were not so ;
 But I'll tell ye
 What befel ye :
 Cupid and his mother lay
 In a cloud ; while both did play,
 He with his pretty finger press'd
 The ruby niplet of her breast,
 Out of the which the cream of light,
 Like to a dew,
 Fell down on you,
 And made ye white.

XXI.

AN ECLOGUE, OR PASTORAL BETWEEN ENDYMION PORTER, AND LYCIDAS HERRICK, SET AND SUNG.

Endym. Ah, Lycidas, come tell me why
Thy whilome merry oate
By thee do so neglected lie,
And never purls a note?

I prithee speak. *Lyc.* I will. *End.* Say on.

Lyc. 'Tis thou, and only thou
That art the cause, Endymion;

End. For love's sake tell me how.

Lyc. In this regard, that thou dost play
Upon another plain;
And for a rural roundelay
Strik'st now a courtly strain.

Thou leav'st our hills, our dales, our bowers,
Our finer fleeced sheep;
Unkind to us, to spend thine hours,
Where shepherds should not keep.

I mean the court: let Latmos be
My loved Endymion's court;

End. But I the courtly state would see;

Lyc. Then see it in report.

What has the court to do with swains,
Where Phillis is not known?
Nor does it mind the rustic strains
Of us, or Coridon.

Break, if thou lov'st us, this delay ;
End. Dear Lycidas, ere long,
 I vow my Pan, to come away,
 And pipe unto thy song.

Then Jessamine, with Florabel,
 And dainty Amaryllis,
 With handsome-handled Drosomel,
 Shall prank thy hook with lilies.

Lyr. Then Tityrus and Coridon,
 And Thyrsis, they shall follow,
 With all the rest ; while thou alone
 Shalt lead, like young Apollo.

And if thou com'st, thy Lycidas,
 In every genial cup,
 Shall write in spice, Endymion 'twas
 That kept his piping up.

And my most lucky swain, when I shall live to see
 Endymion's moon to fill up full, remember me ;
 Meantime, let Lycidas have leave to pipe to thee.

XXII.

TO BLOSSOMS.

Fair pledges of a fruitful tree,
 Why do you fall so fast ?
 Your date is not so past,
 But you may stay yet here awhile
 To blush, and gently smile,
 And go at last.

What! were ye born to be
 An hour or half's delight,
 And so to bid good night?
 'Twas pity nature brought ye forth
 Merely to show your worth,
 And lose you quite.

But you are lovely leaves, where we
 May read how soon things have
 Their end, though ne'er so brave;
 And after they have shown their pride,
 Like you, awhile, they glide,
 Into the grave.

XXIII.

TO A BED OF TULIPS.

Bright tulips, we do know,
 You had your coming hither,
 And fading time does show,
 That ye must quickly wither.

Your sisterhoods may stay,
 And smile here for your hour;
 But die ye must away,
 Even as the meanest flower.

Come, virgins, then and see
 Your frailties, and bemoan ye,
 For lost like these, 'twill be
 As time had never known ye.

XXIV.

TO PRIMROSES FILLED WITH MORNING-DEW.

Why do ye weep, sweet babes? can tears

Speak grief in you,

Who were but born

Just as the modest morn

Teemed her refreshing dew?

Alas, you have not known that shower,

That mars a flower,

Nor felt the unkind

Breath of a blasting wind,

Nor are ye worn with years;

Or warpt, as we,

Who think it strange to see,

Such pretty flowers, like to orphans young,

To speak by tears before ye have a tongue.

Speak, whimpering younglings, and make known

The reason why

Ye droop and weep,

Is it for want of sleep,

Or childish lullaby?

Or that ye have not seen as yet

The violet?

Or brought a kiss

From that sweetheart to this?

No, no, this sorrow shown

By your tears shed,

Would have this lecture read,

That things of greatest, so of meanest worth,

Conceiv'd with grief are, and with tears brought forth.

XXV.

A NEW YEAR'S GIFT SENT TO SIR SIMEON STEWARD.

No news of navies burnt at seas ;
 No news of late-spawn'd titteries ;
 No closet plot or open vent,
 That frights men with a Parliament :
 No new device or late-found trick,
 To read by th' stars the kingdom's sick ;
 No gin to catch the state, or wring
 The free-born nostrils of the king,
 We send to you ; but here a jolly
 Verse crown'd with ivy and with holly ;
 That tells of winter's tales and mirth,
 That milk-maids make about the hearth,
 Of Christmas sports, the wassail-bowl,
 That toss'd up after Fox-i'th' hole ;
 Of Blind-man's-buff, and of the care
 That young men have to shoe the mare ;
 Of twelfth-tide cake, of peas and beans,
 Wherewith ye make those merry scenes,
 When as ye choose your king and queen,
 And cry out " Hey for our town green."
 Of ash-heaps, in the which ye use
 Husbands and wives by streaks to choose ;
 Of crackling laurel, which fore-sounds
 A plenteous harvest to your grounds ;
 Of these, and such like things, for shift,
 We send instead of new-year's gift.
 Read then, and when your faces shine
 With bucksome meat and cap'ring wine,
 Remember us in cups full crown'd,

And let our city health go round,
 Quite through the young maids and the men,
 To the ninth number, if not ten,
 Until the fired chesnuts leap
 For joy to see the fruits ye reap,
 From the plump chalice and the cup
 That tempts till it be tossed up.
 Then as ye sit about your embers,
 Call not to mind those fled Decembers;
 But think on these, that are t' appear,
 As daughters to the instant year;
 Sit crown'd with rose-buds, and carouse
 Till *Liber Pater* twirls the house
 About your ears, and lay upon
 The year, your cares, that's fled and gone.
 And let the russet swains the plough
 And harrow hang up resting now;
 And to the bagpipe all address
 Till sleep takes place of weariness.
 And thus, throughout, with Christmas play
 Frolic the full twelve holydays.

XXVI.

FAIR DAYS; OR, DAWNS DECEITFUL.

Fair was the dawn; and but e'en now the skies
 Shew'd like to cream, inspir'd with strawberries:
 But on a sudden all was chang'd and gone,
 That smil'd in that first sweet complexion;
 Then thunder-claps and lightning did conspire
 To tear the world, or set it all on fire.
 What! trust to things below, when as we see
 As men, the heavens have their hypocrisy.

XXVII.

TO DAFFODILS.

Fair daffodils, We weep to see
 You haste away so soon ;
 As yet the early-rising sun
 Has not attain'd his noon :

Stay, stay,
 Until the hastening day
 Has run

But to the even-song ;
 And, having pray'd together, we
 Will go with you along !

We have short time to stay, as you ;
 We have as short a spring,
 As quick a growth to meet decay,
 As you, or any thing :

We die,
 As your hours fly ; and dry
 Away

Like to the summer's rain,
 Or as the pearls of morning dew,
 Ne'er to be found again.

XXVIII.

UPON ONE LILLIE, WHO MARRIED WITH A MAID
 CALLED ROSE.

What times of sweetness this fair day foreshows,
 When as the Lily marries with the Rose !
 What next is look'd for, but we all should see
 To spring from these a sweet posterity.

XXIX.

A PASTORAL SUNG TO THE KING.

Montano, Silvio, and Mirtillo, Shepherds

Mon. Bad are the times. *Sil.* And worse than they are we.

Mon. 'Troth, bad are both; worse fruit, and ill the trees: •

The feast of shepherds fail. *Sil.* None crowns the cup

Of wassail now, or sets the quintal up:

And he, who us'd to lead the country round,

Youthful Mirtillo, here he comes, grief drown'd.

Ambo. Let's cheer him up. *Sil.* Behold him weeping ripe.

Mirt. Ah, Amarillis; farewell mirth and pipe;

Since thou art gone no more I mean to play

To these smooth lawns, my mirthful roundelay.

Dear Amarillis! *Mon.* Hark! *Sil.* Mark! *Mirt.* This earth grew sweet

Where, Amarillis, thou didst set thy feet.

Ambo. Poor pitied youth! *Mirt.* And here the breath of kine

And sheep grew more sweet by that breath of thine.

This flock of wool, and this rich lock of hair,

This ball of cowslips, these she gave me here.

Sil. Words sweet as love itself. *Mon.* Hark!

Mirt. This way she came, and this way too she went;

How each thing smells divinely redolent!

Like to a field of beans, when newly blown,

Or like a meadow being lately mown.

Mon. A sweet sad passion—

Mirt. In dewy mornings, when she came this way,
Sweet bernts would bow, to give my love the day;
And when at night she folded had her sheep,
Daisies would shut, and closing, sigh and weep.
Besides (ah me!) since she went hence to dwell,
The voice's daughter, ne'er spake syllable.

But she is gone. *Sil.* Mirtillo, tell us whither?

Mirt. Where she and I shall never meet together

Mon. Fore-fend it Pan; and Pales, doⁿ thou please
To give an end. *Mirt.* To what? *Sil.* Such griefs as
these.

~~*Mirt.* Never,~~ O never! Still I may endure
The wound I suffer, never find a cure.

Mon. Love, for thy sake, will bring her to these hills'

And dales again. *Mirt.* No, I will languish still;

And all the while my part shall be to weep;

And with my sighs call home my bleating sheep;

And in the rind of every comely tree

I'll carve thy name, and in that name kiss thee.

~~*Mon.* Set with the sun thy woes.~~ *Sil.* The day grows
old,

And time it is our full-fed flocks to fold.

Chor. The shades grow great; but greater grows our
sorrow;

But let's go steep

Our eyes in sleep,

And meet to weep

to-morrow.

XXX.

CHARON AND PHILOMEL, A DIALOGUE SUNG.

Ph. Charon! O gentle Charon! let me woo thee,
By tears and pity now to come unto me.

Ch. What voice so sweet and charming do I hear?

Say, what thou art. *Ph.* I pray you first draw near.

Ch. A sound I hear, but nothing yet can see,
Speak where thou art. *Ph.* O, Charon pity me!

I am a bird, and though no name I tell,

My warbling note will say I'm Philomel.

Ch. What's that to me, I waft nor fish or fowl,

Nor beasts, fond thing, but only human souls.

Ph. Alas, for me! *Ch.* Shame on thy witching note,

That made me thus hoist sail, and bring my boat:

But I'll return; what mischief brought thee hither;

Ph. A deal of love, and much, much grief together.

Ch. What's thy request? *Ph.* That since she's now
beneath

Who fed my life, I'll follow her in death.

Ch. And is that all? I'm gone. *Ph.* By love, I pray
— thee.

Ch. Talk not of love; all pray, but few souls pay me.

Ph. I'll give thee vows and tears. *Ch.* Can tears pay
scores

For mending sails, for patching boat and oars?

Ph. I'll beg a penny, or I'll sing so long,

Till thou shalt say I've paid thee with a song.

Ch. Why, then begin, and all the while we make

Our slithering passage o'er the Stygian lake,

You and I'll sing to these dull shades merry,

Who else with tears would doubtless drown my ferry.

XXXI.

THE FUNERAL RITES OF THE ROSE.

The rose was sick, and smiling died,
 And, being to be sanctifi'd,
 About the bed, there sighing stood
 The sweet and flow'ry sisterhood.
 Some hung the head, whilst some did bring,
 To wash her, water from the spring,
 Some laid her forth, while others wept,
 But all a solemn fast there kept
 The holy sisters, some among,
 The sacred dirge and trental sung,
 But ah! what sweets smelt everywhere,
 As heaven had spent all perfumes there.
 At last, when prayers for the dead,
 And rites were all accomplished,
 They, weeping, spread a lawny loom,
 And clos'd her up as in a tomb.

XXXII.

THE SUCCESSION OF THE FOUR SWEET MONTHS.

First, April, she with mellow showers
 Opens the way for early flowers;
 Then after her comes smiling May,
 In a more rich and sweet array,
 Next enters June, and brings us more
 Gems than those two that went before;
 Then, lastly, July comes, and she
 More wealth brings in than all those three.

XXXIII.

TO VIOLETS.

Welcome, maids of honour,
 You do bring
 In the spring;
 And wait upon her.

She has virgins many,
 Fresh and fair;
 Yet you are
 More sweet than any

Y'are the Maiden Posies,
 And so grac'd,
 To be plac'd
 'Fore damask roses.

Yet though thus respected,
 By and by
 You do lie
 Poor girls, neglected

XXXIV.

FAREWELL FROST, OR WELCOME THE SPRING.

Fléd are the frosts, and now the fields appear
 Reclothed in fresh and verdant diaper;
 Thaw'd are the snows, and now the lusty spring
 Gives to each mead a neat enamelling:
 The palms put forth their gems, and every tree
 Now swaggers in her leafy gallantry.

'The while the Daulian minstrel sweetly sings
 With warbling notes her Terrean sufferings,
 What gentle winds perspire ; as if here
 Never had been the northern plunderer,
 To strip the trees and fields to their distress,
 Leaving them to a pitied nakedness :
 And look, how when a frantic storm doth tear
 A stubborn oak, or elm, long growing there,
 But lull'd to calmness ; then succeeds a breeze,
 That scarcely stirs the nodding leaves of trees :
 When this war, which, tempest-like, doth spoil
 Our salt, our corn, our honey, wine, and oil,
 Falls to a temper, and doth mildly cast
 His inconsiderate frenzy off, at last ;
 The gentle dove may, when these turmoils cease,
 Bring in her bill once more the branch of peace.

XXXV.

TO FLOWERS.

In time of life I grac'd you with my verse,
 Do now your flowery honours to my hearse.
 You shall not languish ; trust me ; virgins here
 Weeping, shall make you flourish all the year.

FAIRY LAND

— 120 —

XXXVI.

TO LARR.

No more shall I, since I am driven hence,
Devote to thee my grains of frankincense ;
No more shall I from mantle-trees hang down
To honour thee, my little parsley-crown ;
No more shall I, I fear me, to thee bring
My chives of garlic for an offering ;
No more shall I, from henceforth, hear a choir
Of merry crickets by my country fire ;
Go where I will. thou lucky Larr, stay here,
Warm by a glitt'ring chimney all the year.

FAIRY LAND.



XXXVII.

THE FAIRIES.

If ye will with Mab find grace,
 Set each platter in his place ;
 Rake the fire up, and get
 Water in, ere sun be set.
 Wash your pails and cleanse your dairies,
 Sluts are loathsome to the fairies ;
 Sweep your house ; who doth not so,
 Mab will pinch her by the toe.

XXXVIII.

LARR'S PORTION AND THE POET'S PART.

At my homely country-seat,
 I have there a little wheat,
 Which I work to meal, and make
 Therewithal a holy cake ;
 Part of which I give to Larr,
 Part is my peculiar.

XXXIX.

THE FAIRY TEMPLE; OR OBERON'S CHAPEL.

DEDICATED TO MR. JOHN MEARIFIELD, COUNSELLOR AT LAW.

Rare temples thou hast seen I know,
 And rich for in and outward show;
 Survey this chapel, built alone
 Without or lime, or wood, or stone.
 Then say if one thou hast seen more fine
 Than this, the fairies once, now thine.

THE TEMPLE.

A way enchased with glass and beads
 There is, that to the chapel leads;
 Whose structure, for his holy rest;
 Is here the halcyon's curious nest,
 Into the which who looks shall see
 His temple of idolatry.
 Where he of god-heads has such store,
 As Rome's Pantheon had not more.
 His house of Rimmōn this he calls,
 Girt with small bones, instead of walls.
 First, in a niche, more black than jet,
 His idol cricket there is set;
 Then in a polish'd oval by,
 There stands his idol beetle-fly;
 Next, in an arch, akin to this,
 His idol canker seat is.
 Then in a round, is placed by these
 His golden god, Cantharides.

So that where'er ye look, ye see
 No capital, no cornice free,
 Or frieze, from this fine frippery.
 Now this the fairies would have known,
 Theirs is a mix'd religion:
 And some have heard the elves it call
 Part pagan, part papistical.
 If unto me all tongues were granted,
 I could not speak the saints here painted.
 Saint Tit, saint Nit, saint Is, saint Itis,
 Who against Mab's state placed here right is
 Saint Will-o'-th'-wisp of no great bigness,
 But alias call'd here *fatuus ignis*.
 Saint Frip, saint Trip, saint Fill, saint Filly,
 Neither those other saint-ships will I
 Here go about for to recite
 Their number, almost infinite;
 Which, one by one, here set down are
 In this most curious calendar.
 First, at the entrance to the gate,
 A little puppet-priest doth wait,
 Who squeaks to all the comers there,
 Favour your tongues, who enter here.
 Pure hands bring hither without stain: "
 A second pules, "Hence, hence, profane."
 Hard by i' the shell of half a nut
 The holy water there is put;
 A little brush of squirrel's hairs,
 Composed of odd not even pairs
 Stands in the platter, or close by,
 To purge the fairy familv.

Near to the altar stands the priest,
 There offering up the holy grist ;
 Ducking in mood and perfect tense,
 With (much good do't him) reverence.
 The altar is not here four-square,
 Nor in a form triangular ;
 Nor made of glass, or wood, or stone,
 But of a little transverse bone ;
 Which boys and bruckled children call
 (Playing for points and pins) cockall ;
 Whose *linen drapery* is a thin,
 Subtle, and ductile 'cod'in's skin ;
 Which o'er the board is smoothly spread .
 With little scal-work damasked.
 The fringe that circumbinds it, too,
 Is spangle work of trembling dew,
 Which gently gleaming, makes a show,
 Like frost-work glittering on the snow
 Upon this fetuous board doth stand
 Something for shew-bread, and at hand
 (Just in the middle of the altar)
 Upon an end, the fairy psalter,
 Graced with the trout-fly's curious wings,
 Which serve for watchet ribandings.
 Now, we must know, the elves are led
 Right by the rubrick which they read :
 And if report of them be true,
 They have their text for what they do ;
 Ay, and their book of canons too.
 And, as Sir Thome Parson tells,
 They have their book of articles ;

And, if that fairy knight not lies,
 They have their book of homilies ;
 And other scriptures, that design
 A short but righteous discipline.
 The bason stands the board upon
 To take the free oblation :
 A little pindust, which they hold
 More precious than we prize our gold ;
 Which charity they give to many
 Poor of the parish, if there's any.
 Upon the ends of these neat rails,
 Hatch'd with the silver light of snails,
 The elves, in formal manner, fix
 Two pure and holy candlesticks,
 In either which a tall small bent
 Burns for the altar's ornament.
 For sanctity, they have to these
 Their curious copes and surplices
 Of cleanest cobweb, hanging by
 In their religious vestry.
 They have their ash-pans and their brooms,
 To purge the chapel and the rooms ;
 Their many mumbling mass-priests here,
 And many a dapper chorister ;
 Their ushering vergers here likewise,
 Their canons and their chanteries ;
 Of cloister-monks they have enow,
 Ay, and their Abbey-lubbers too.
 And if their legend do not lie,
 They much affect the papacy ;
 And since the last is dead, there's hope
 Elve Boniface shall next be pope.

They have their cups and chalices,
Their pardons and indulgences,
Their beads of nits, bells, books, and wax
Candles, forsooth, and other knacks ;
Their holy oil, their fasting spittle,
Their sacred salt here, not a little.
Dry chips, old shoes, rags, grease, and bones,
Beside their fumigations,
To drive the devil from the cod-piece
Of the friar, of work an odd-piece.
Many a trifle, too, and trinket,
And for what use, scarce man would think it.
Next then, upon the chanter's side
An apple's core is hung up dried,
With rattling kernels, which is rung
To call to morn and even-song.
The saint, to whom the most he prays
And offers incense nights and days,
The lady of the lobster is,
Whose foot-pace he doth stroke and kiss,
And humbly chives of saffron brings,
For his most cheerful offerings.
When after these he's paid his vows,
He lowly to the altar bows ;
And then he dons the silkworm's shed,
Like a Turk's turban on his head,
And reverently departeth thence,
Hid in a cloud of frankincense ;
And by the glow-worm's light well guided,
Goes to the feast that's now provided.

XL.

OBERON'S FEAST.

"Shapcot! to thee the fairy state
 I with discretion dedicate;
 Because thou prizest things that are
 Curious and unfamiliar.
 Take first the feast; these dishes gone;
 We'll see the Fairy court anon."

A little mushroom-table spread,
 After short prayers they set on bread,
 A moon-parch'd grain of purest wheat
 With some small glitt'ring grit, to eat
 His choice bits with; then in a trice
 They make a feast less great than nice.
 But all this while his eye is serv'd
 We must not think his ear was starv'd;
 But that there was in place to stir
 His spleen, the chirping grasshopper,
 The merry cricket, puling flie,
 The piping gnat for minstrelsy.
 And now, we must imagine first,
 The elf is present to quench his thirst,
 A pure seed-pearl of infant dew,
 Brought and besweetened in a blue
 And pregnant violet; which done,
 His kitten eyes begin to run
 Quite through the table, where he spies
 The horns of paper butterflies,
 Of which he eats; and tastes a little
 Of that we call the cuckoo's spittle;

A little fuzball pudding stands
By, yet not blessed by his hands,
That was too coarse ; but then forthwith
He ventures boldly on the pith
Of sugared rush, and eats the sag
And well bestrutted bees' sweet bag ;
Glad'ning his palate with some store
Of emits' eggs ; what would he more ?
But beards of mice, a newt's stew'd thigh,
A bloated earwig, and a flie ;
With the red-cap'd worm, that's shut
Within the concave of a nut,
Brown as his tooth. A little moth,
Late fatten'd in a piece of cloth ;
With withered cherries, mandrakes' ears,
Moles' eyes ; to these the slain stag's tears ;
The unctuous dewlaps of a snail,
The broke heart of a nightingale
O'ercome in music ; with a wine
Ne'er ravish'd from the flattering vine,
But gently press'd from the soft side
Of the most sweet and dainty bride,
Brought in a dainty daisy, which
He fully quaffs up to bewitch
His blood to height ; this done, commended
Grace by his priest : the feast is ended.

OBERON'S PALACE.

After the feast, my Shapcot, see
 The Fairy court I give to thee ;
 Where we'll present our Oberon led
 Half tipsy to the Fairy bed,
 Where Mab he finds, who there doth lie
 Not without mickle majesty.
 Which done, and thence remov'd the light,
 We'll wish both them and thee good night.

• Full as a bee with thyme, and red
 As cherry harvest, now high fed
 For lust and action ; on he'll go
 To lie with Mab, though all say no.
 Lust has no ears ; he's sharp as thorn,
 And fretful, carries hay in's horn,
 And lightning in his eyes ; and flings
 Among the elves, if mov'd the stings
 Of peltish wasps ; we'll know his guard ;
 Kings, though they're hated, will be fear'd.
 • Vine lead him on. Thus to a grove,
 Sometimes devoted unto love,
 Tinsel'd with twilight, he and they
 Led by the shine of snails, a way
 Beat with their numerous feet, which by
 Many a neat perplexity,
 Many a turn, and many a cross-
 Track, they redeem a bank of moss
 Spongy and swelling, and far more
 Soft than the finest Lemster ore ;

Mildly disparkling, like those fires
Which break from the enjewel'd tires
Of curious brides: or like those mites
Of candid dew in moony nights.
Upon this convex, all the flowers
Nature begets by th' sun and showers,
Are to a wild digestion brought,
As if Love's sampler here was wrought;
Or Citherea's ceston, which
All with temptation doth bewitch,
Sweet airs move here, and more divine
Made by the breath of great ey'd kine,
Who, as they low, empearl with milk
The four-leav'd grass, or moss-like silk.
The breath of monkies, met to mix
With musk-flies, are th' aromatics
Which scents this arch; and here and there.
And further off, and everywhere
Throughout that brave Mosaic yard,
Those picks or diamonds in the card;
With pips of hearts, of club and spade,
Are here most neatly interlaid.
Many a counter, many a die,
Half rotten, and without an eye,
Lies hereabouts; and for to pave
The excellency of this cave,
Squirrels' and children's teeth late shed,
Are neatly here enchequered,
With brownest toadstones, and the gum
That shines upon the bluer plum.
The nails fallen off by whitlows: Art's
Wise hand enchasing here those warts,

Which we to others (from ourselves)
 Sell, and brought hither by the elves.
 The tempting mole, stol'n from the neck
 Of the shy virgin, seems to deck
 The holy entrance; where within,
 The room is hung with the blue skin
 Of shifted snake; enfi'ez'd throughout
 With eyes of peacock's trains, and trout-
 Fines' curious wings; and these among
 Those silver-pence, that cut the tongue
 Of the red infant, neatly hung
 The glowworm's eyes, the shining scales
 Of silvery fish, wheat-straws, the snails
 Soft candle-light, the kitten's eyne,
 Corrupted wood, serve here for shine.
 No glaring light of bold-fac'd day,
 Or other over radiant ray,
 Ransacks this room; but what weak beams
 Can make reflected from these gems,
 And multiply; such is the light,
 But ever doubtful, day or night.
 By this quaint taper-light, he winds
 His errors up; and now he finds
 His moon-tann'd Mab, as somewhat sick,
 And, love knows, tender as a chick.
 Upon six plump dandelions; high-
 Rear'd, lies her elfish majesty,
 Whose woolly-bubbles seem'd to drown
 Her Mabship in obedient down;
 For either sheet was spread the caul
 That doth the infant face enthrall,

When it is born, by some enstyl'd
The lucky omen of the child ;
And next to these, two Blankets o'er-
Cast of the finest gossamer ;
And then a rug of carded wool,
Which, sponge-like, drinking in the dull
Light of the moon, seem'd to comply,
Cloud-like, the dainty Deity.
Thus soft she lies ; and overhead
A spinner's circle is bespread
With cobweb curtains ; from the roof
So neatly sunk, as that no proof
Of any tackling can declare
What gives it hanging in the air,
The fringe about this, are those threads
Broke at the loss of maidenheads ;
And all behung with these pure pearls,
Drop'd from the eyes of ravish'd girls,
Or writhing brides, when, parting, they
Give unto love the straighter way.
For music now, he has the cries
Of feigned lost virginities ;
The which the elves make to excite
A more unconquered appetite,
The king's undress'd ; and now upon
The gnat's watchword the elves are gone..
And now the bed, and Mab possess'd
Of this great little kingly guest ;
We'll nobly think, what's to be done
He'll do no doubt : This flax is spun.

XLII.

THE BEGGAR TO MAB, THE FAIRY QUEEN.

Please your grace, from out your store
 Give an alms to one that's poor,
 That your mickle may have more.
 Black I'm grown for want of meat,
 Give me then an ant to eat,
 Or the cleft ear of a mouse
 Over-sour'd in drink of souse;
 Or, sweet lady, reach to me
 The abdomen of a bee;
 Or commend a cricket's hip,
 Or his huckson, to my scrip;
 Give for bread a little bit
 Of a piece that 'gins to chit,
 And my full thanks take for it.
 Flour of fuz-balls, that's too good
 For a man in needy-hood;
 But the meal of mill-dust can
 Well content a craving man;
 Any oats the elves refuse
 Well will serve the beggar's use.
 But if this may seem too much
 For an alms, then give me such
 Little bits that nestle there
 In the pris'ner's pannier.
 So a blessing light upon
 You and mighty Oberon;
 That your plenty last till when
 I return your alms again.

XLIII.

THE HAG.

The hag is astride,
 This night for to ride,
 The devil and she together;
 Through thick and through thin,
 Now out, and then in,
 Though ne'er so foul be the weather.

A thorn or a burr
 She takes for a spur;
 With a lash of a bramble she rides now,
 Through brakes and through briars,
 O'er ditches and mires,
 She follows the spirit that guides now.

No beast, for his food,
 Dares now range the wood,
 But hush'd in' his lair he lies lurking;
 While mischief, by these,
 On land and on seas,
 At noon or night are found working.

The storm will arise,
 And trouble the skies,
 This night; and, more for the wonder,
 The ghost from the tomb
 Affrighted shall come,
 Call'd out by the clap of the thunder.

XLIV.

A HYMN TO THE LARES.

It was, and still my care is,
 To worship ye, the Lares,
 With crowns of greenest parsley,
 And garlands gives not scarcely ;
 For favours here to warm me,
 And not by fire to harm me ;
 For gladdening so my hearth here
 With inoffensive mirth here ;
 That while the wassail bowl here
 With North-down ale doth trowl here,
 No syllable doth fall here.
 To mar the mirth at all here.
 For which, O chimney-keepers !
 I dare not call ye sweepers,
 So long as I am able
 To keep a country table,
 Great be my fare, or small cheer,
 I'll eat and drink up all here.

XLV.

TO THE LITTLE SPINNERS.

Ye pretty housewives, would ye know
 The work that I would put ye to ?
 This, this it should be, for to spin
 A lawn for me, so fine and thin,
 As it might serve me for any skin.
 For cruel love has me so whip'd,
 That of my skin I am all strip'd,

And shall despair that any art
 Can ease the rawness or the smart,
 Unless you skin again each part.
 Which mercy, if you will but do,
 I call all maids to witness to
 What here I promise, that no broom
 Shall now, or ever after, come
 To wrong a Spinner or her room.

THE GENIUS OF HIS HOUSE.

Commend the roof, great Genius, and from thence
 Into this house pour down thy influence,
 That through each room a golden pipe may run
 Of living water by the benizon;
 Fulfill the larders, and by strength'ning bread
 Be evermore thy bins replenished.
 Next, like a bishop, consecrate my ground,
 That lucky fairies here may dance their round;
 And, after that, lay down some silver pence,
 The master's charge and care to recompense;
 Charm then the chambers; make the beds for ease,
 More than for peevish pining sicknesses;
 Fix the foundation fast, and let the roof
 Grow old with time, but yet keep weath' er-proof.

XLVII.

THE DEPARTURE OF THE GOOD DÆMON.

What can I do in poetry,
 Now the good spirit's gone from me?
 Why nothing now, but lonely sit,
 And over-read what I have writ.

CHARMS AND CEREMONIES.

CHARMS AND CEREMONIES.

XLIX.

THE PETER-PENNY.

Fresh strowings allow
 To my sepulchre now,
 To make my lodging the sweeter;
 A staff or a wand,
 Put then in my hand,
 With a penny to pay St. Peter.

Who has not a cross,
 Must sit with the loss,
 And no whit further must venture;
 Since the porter he
 Will paid have his fee,
 Or else not one there must enter.

Who at a dead lift,
 Can't send, for a gift,
 A pig to the priest for a roaster,
 Shall hear his clerk say,
 By yea and by nay,
 No penny, no pater-noster.

L.

CEREMONIES FOR CHRISTMAS.

Come, bring with a noise,
 My merry merry boys,
 The Christmas log to the firing;
 While my good dame, she
 Bids ye all be free,
 And drink to your heart's desiring.

With the last year's braud
 Light the new block, and
 For good success in his spending,
 On your psaltries play,
 That sweet luck may
 Come while the log is a tending.

Drink now the strong beer,
 Cut the white loaf here,
 The while the meat is a shredding;
 For the rare mince-pie,
 And the plums stand by,
 To fill the paste that's a kneading.

LI.

A CHARM, OR AN' AILLAY FOR LOVE.

If so be a toad be laid
 In a sheep's sk'n newly flayed,
 And that tied to man, 'twill sever
 Him and his affections ever.

LII.

THE WASSAIL.

Give way, give way, ye gates, and win
 An easy blessing to your bin
 And basket, by our ent'ring in.

May both with manchet stand replete,
 Your larders, too, so hung with meat,
 That thou a thousand, thousand eat.

Yet ere twelve moons shall whirl about
 Their silv'ry spheres, there's none may doubt
 But more's sent in than was serv'd out.

Next, may your dairies prosper so,
 As that your pans no cobbler may know;
 But if they do, the more to flow.

Like to a solemn sober stream,
 Bank'd all with lilies, and the cream
 Of sweetest cowslips filling them.

Then may your plants be press'd with fruit,
 Nor bee or hive you have be mute,
 But sweetly sounding like a lute.

Next, may your duck and teeming hen,
 Both to the cock's tread say, amen;
 And for their two eggs render ten.

Last, may your harrows, shares, and ploughs,
 Your stacks, your stocks, your sweetest mows,
 All prosper by your virgin-vows.

Alas! we bless, but see none here,
That brings us either ale or beer;
In a dry-house all things are near.

Let's leave a longer time to wait,
Where rust and cobwebs bind the gate;
And all live here with needy fate;

Where chimneys do for ever weep,
For want of warmth, and stomachs keep
With noise the servants' eyes from sleep.

It is in vain to sing, or stay
Our free feet here, but we'll away;
Yet to the lares this we'll say:

The time will come, when you'll be sad,
And reckon this for fortune bad,
T'ave lost the good ye might have had.

1.111.

CEREMONIES FOR CANDLEMAS EVE.

Down with rosemary and bays,
Down with the misletoe
Instead of holly, now upraise
The greener box, for show.

The holly hitherto did sway;
Let box now domineer,
Until the dancing Easter-day
Or Easter's eve appear.

Then youthful box, which now hath grace
Your houses to renew,
Grown old, surrender must his place
Unto the crisped yew.

When yew is out, then birch comes in,
 And many flowers beside,
 Both of a fresh and fragrant kin
 To honour Whitsuntide.

Green rushes then, and sweetest bents,
 With cooler oaken boughs,
 Come in for comely ornaments,
 To re-adorn the house.

Thus times do shift; each thing his turn does hold;
 New things succeed as former things grow old.

LIV.

THE CEREMONIES FOR CANDLEMAS DAY.

Kindle the Christmas brand, and then
 'Till sunset let it burn;
 Which quenched, then lay it up again,
 'Till Christmas next return.

Part must be kept, wherewith to tend
 The Christmas log next year;
 And where it is safely kept, the fiend
 Can do no mischief there.

LV.

DRAW-GLOVES.

At Draw-gloves we'll play,
 And prithee let's lay
 A wager, and let it be this;
 Who first to the sum
 Of twenty shall come,
 Shall have for his winning a kiss.

LVI.

CEREMONY UPON CANDLEMAS EVE.

Down with the rosemary, and so
 Down with the bays and misletoe ;
 Down with the holly, ivy, all
 Wherewith ye dress'd the Christmas hall ;
 That so the superstitions find
 No one least branch there left behind ;
 For look, how many leaves there be
 Neglected there, maids, trust to me,
 So many goblins you shall see.

LVII.

UPON CANDLEMAS DAY.

End now the white-loaf and the pie,
 And let all sports with Christmas die.

THE OLIVE BRANCH.

Sadly I walk'd within the field,
 'To see what comfort it wo'd yield ;
 And as I went my private way,
 An olive branch before me lay ;
 And seeing it, I made a stay,
 And took it up, and view'd it ; then
 Kissing the omen, said, amen ;
 Be, be it so, and let this be
 A divination unto me ;
 That in short time my woes shall cease,
 And love shall crown my end with peace.

LIX.

CHRISTMAS-EVE, ANOTHER CEREMONY.

Come, guard this night the Christmas-pie,
That the thief, though ne'er so sly,
With his flesh-hooks, don't come nigh
To catch it.

From him, who all alone sits there,
Having his eyes still in his ear,
And a deaf of nightly fear,
To watch it.

LX.

THE SPELL.

Holy water come and bring,
Cast in salt for seasoning;
Set the brush for sprinkling;
Sacred spittle bring ye hither;
Meal and it now mix together;
And a little oil to either:
Give the tapers here their light;
Ring the saints' bell, to affright
Far from hence the evil sprite.

LXI.

ANOTHER.

Wassail the trees, that they may bear
You many a plover and many a pear;
For more or less fruits they will bring,
As you do give them wassailing.

IXII.

TWELFTH NIGHT, OR KING AND QUEEN.

Now, now the mirth comes,
 With the cake full of plums,
 Where bean's the king of the sport here ;
 Beside we must 'know,
 The pea also
 Must revel as queen in the court here.

Begin then to choose,
 This night as you use,
 Who shall for the present delight here ;
 Be a king by the lot,
 And who shall not
 Be twelfth-day queen for the night here.

Which known, let us make
 Joy-sops with the cake ;
 And let not a man then be seen here,
 Who unurg'd will not drink,
 To the base from the brink,
 A health to the king and the queen here.

Next crown the bowl full
 With gentle lambs' wool ;
 Add sugar, nutmeg, and ginger,
 With store of ale too ;
 And thus ye must do
 To make the wassail a swinger.●

Give then to the king
 And queen wassailing ;

And though with ale ye be wet here,
 Yet part ye from hence,
 As free from offence,
 As when ye innocent met here.

LXIII.

SAINT DISTAFF'S DAY, OR, THE MORROW AFTER
 TWELFTH DAY.

Partly work and partly play
 Ye must on St. Distaff's day;
 From the plough soon free your team,
 Then come home and fother them.
 If the maids a spinning go,
 Burn the flax, and fire the tow;
 Scorch their plackets, but beware
 That ye singe no maiden-hair.
 Bring in pails of water then,
 Let the maids bewash the men:
 Give St. Distaff all the right,
 Then bid Christmas sport good night;
 And next morrow, every one
 To his own vocation.

LXIV.

CHARMS.

Let the superstitious wife,
 Near the child's heart lay a knife;
 Point be up and haft be down;
 While she gossips in the town,
 This, 'mongst other mystic charms,
 Keeps the sleeping child from harms.

LXV.

THE MAY-POLE.

The May-pole is up,
 Now give me the cup ;
 I'll drink to the garlands around it
 But first unto those
 Whose hands did compose
 The glory of flowers that crown'd it.

A health to my girls,
 Whose husbands may earls,
 Or lords be, granting my wishes ;
 And when that ye wed
 To the bridal bed,
 Then multiply all like to fishes.

A SONG TO THE MASKERS.

Come down, and dance ye in the toil
 Of pleasures, to a heat ;
 But if to moisture, let the oil
 Of roses be your sweat.

Not only to yourselves assume
 These sweets, but let them fly
 From this to that, and so perfume
 E'en all the standers by.

As goddess Isis, when she went
 Or glided through the street ;
 Made all that touch'd her, with her scent,
 And whom she touch'd turn sweet.

LXVII.

C H A R M.

Bring the holy crust of bread ;
 Lay it underneath the head
 'Tis a certain charm to keep
 Hags away, while children sleep.

LXVIII.

ANOTHER CHARM FOR STABLES.

'Hang up hooks and shears to scare
 Hence the hag, that rides the mare,
 Till they be all over wet
 With the mire and the sweat
 This observ'd, the manes, shall be,
 Of your horses all knot free.

LXIX.

ON HIMSELF.

One ear tingles ; some there be
 That are snarling now at me :
 Be they those that Homer bit,
 I will give them thanks for it.

LXX.

BARLEY-BREAK ; OR LAST IN HELL.

We two are last in hell ; what may we fear,
 To be tormented, or kept pris'ners here ?
 Alas ! if kissing be of plagues the worst,
 We'll wish, in hell we had been last and first.

LXXI.

CHARM.

In the morning when ye rise
 Wash your hands and cleanse your eyes ;
 Next, be sure ye have a care
 To disperse the water far ;
 For as far as that doth light,
 So far keeps the evil sprite.

LXXII.

ANOTHER TO THE MAIDS.

Wash your hands, or else the fire^o
 Will not tend to your desire ;
 Unwash'd hands, ye maidens, know
 Dead the fire, though ye blow.

LXXIII.

ANOTHER.

This I'll tell ye by the way,
 Maidens when ye leavens lay,
 Cross your dough, and your dispatch
 Will be better for your batch.

LXXIV.

ANOTHER.

If ye fear to be affrighted,
 When ye are, by chance, benighted ;
 In your pocket, for a trust,
 Carry nothing but a crust ;
 For that holy piece of bread
 Charms the danger, and the dread.

LXXV.

THE OLD WIVES' PRAYER.

Holy-rood, come forth and shield
 Us i' th' city, and the field;
 Safely guard us, now and aye,
 From the blast that burns by day;
 And those sounds that us affright
 In the dead of dampish night;
 Drive all hurtful fiends us fro',
 By the time the cocks first crow.

LXXVI.

THE PARTING VERSE, TO MRS. BRIDGET LOWMAN,
 THE FEAST THERE ENDED.

Loth to depart, but yet at last each one
 Back must now go to's habitation;
 Not knowing thus much, when we once do sever,
 Whether or no that we shall meet here ever.
 As for myself, since time a thousand cares
 And griefs hath fill'd upon my silver hairs,
 'Tis to be doubted whether I next year,
 Or no, shall give you a re-meeting here.
 If die I must, then my last vow shall be,
 You'll with a tear or two remember me,
 Your sometime poet; but if fates do give
 Me longer date, and more fresh springs to live;
 Oft as your field shall her old age renew,
 Herriek shall make the meadow-verse for you.

LXXVII.

TO DIANE. A CEREMONY IN GLOUCESTER.

I'll to thee a simnel bring,
'Gainst thou go'st a mothering;
So that when she blesseth thee,
Half that blessing thou'lt give me.

LXXVIII.

THE BELL-MAN.

From noise of scare-fires rest ye free,
From murders Benedicite;
From all mischance that may fright
Your pleasing slumbers in the night,
Mercy secure ye all, and keep
The goblin from ye, while ye sleep.
Past one o'clock, and almost two,
My masters all, "Good day to you."

EPITAPHS.

LXXIX.

UPON A VIRGIN.

Here a solemn fast we keep,
While all beauty lies asleep,
Hush'd be all things, no noise here
But the toning of a tear;
Or a sigh of such as bring
Cowslips for her covering.

E P I T A P H S .

LXXX.

HIS OWN EPITAPH.

As weary pilgrims once possess'd
 Of long'd for lodging, go to rest ;
 So I, now having rid my way,
 Fix here my button'd staff and stay ;
 Youth, I confess, hath me misled,
 But age hath brought me right to bed.

LXXXI.

UPON HIS KINSWOMAN, MRS. M. S.

Here lies a virgin, and as sweet
 As e'er was wrapt in winding sheet ;
 Her name, if next you would have known
 The marble speaks it Mary Stone ;
 Who dying in her blooming years,
 This stone, for name's sake, melts to tears.
 If, fragrant virgins, you'll but keep
 A fast, while jets and marbles weep,
 And, praying, strew some roses on her,
 You'll do my niece abundant honour.

LXXXII.

UPON YRLW, HIS MAID.

In this little u n is laid
 Prudence Baldwin, once my maid ;
 From whose happy spark here let
 Spring the purple violet.

LXXXIII.

UPON AN OLD MAN, A RESIDENTIARY.

Tread, sirs, as lightly as ye can
 Upon the grave of this old man.
 Twice forty, hating but one year,
 And thrice three weeks, he lived here ;
 Whom gentle fate translated hence
 To a more happy residence.
 Yet, reader, let me tell thee this,
 Which from his ghost a promise is,
 If here ye will some few tears shed,
 He'll never haunt ye now he's dead.

LXXXIV.

UPON THE MUCH LAMENTED MR. J. WARR.

What wisdom, learning, wit, or worth,
 Youth or sweet nature could bring forth,
 Rests here with him, who was the fame,
 The volume of himself and name. .
 If reader, then thou wilt draw near,
 And do an honour to thy tear ;
 Weep then for him, for whom laments
 Not one, but many monuments.

LXXXV.

UPON A VIRGIN.

Spend harmless shade, thy nightly hours,
 Selecting here both herbs and flowers;
 Of which make garlands here and there,
 To dress thy silent sepulchre.
 Nor do thou fear the want of these
 In everlasting properties;
 Since we fresh strewings will bring hither,
 Far faster than the first can wither.

LXXXVI.

UPON A MAID.

Here she lies, in bed of spice,
 Fair as Eve in paradise;
 For her beauty it was such,
 Poets could not praise too much.
 Virgins come, and in a ring
 Her supremest *requiem* sing;
 Then depart, but see ye tread
 Lightly, lightly o'er the dead.

LXXXVII.

UPON THE LADY CREW.

This stone can tell the story of my life,
 What was my birth, to whom I was a wife;
 In teeming years how soon my sun was set,
 Where now I rest, these may be known by jet;
 For other things, my many children be
 The best and truest chronicles of me.

LXXXVIII.

UPON A MAID.

Gone she is a long, long way,
 But she has decreed a day
 Back to come and make no stay,
 So we keep, till her return
 Here, ~~ashes~~ashes, or her urn.

LXXXIX.

UPON A CHILD.

Here a pretty baby lies
 Sung asleep with lullabies;
 Pray be silent, and not stir
 The easy earth that covers her.

XC.

UPON A WIFE THAT DIED MAD WITH JEALOUSY.

In this little vault she lies,
 Here, with all her jealousies;
 Quiet yet, but if ye make
 Any noise, they both will wake;
 And such spirits raise, 'twill then
 'Trouble death to lay again.

XCI.

UPON A YOUNG MOTHER OF MANY CHILDREN.

Let all chaste matrons, when they chance to see
 My numerous issue, praise and pity me.
 Praise me for having such a fruitful womb;
 Pity me too, who found so soon a tomb.

XCII.

UPON A MAID THAT DIED THE DAY SHE WAS
MARRIED.

That morn which saw me made a bride,
The ev'ning witness'd that I died.
Those holy lights, wherewith they guide
Unto the bed the bashful bride,
Serv'd but as tapers, for to burn,
And light my reliques to their urn.
This epitaph, which here you see,
Supply'd the epithalamy.

XCIII.

AN EPITAPH UPON A SOBER MATRON.

With blameless carriage I lived here,
To th' almost seven and fortieth year.
Stout sons I had, and those twice three,
One only daughter lent to me:
The which was made a happy bride,
But thrice three moons before she died.
My modest wedlock, that was known
Contented with the bed of one.

XCIV.

UPON HIS SPANIEL TRACY.

Now thou art dead, no eye shall ever see,
For shape and service, Spaniel, like to thee.
This shall my love do, give thy sad death one
Tear, that deserves of me a million.

XCV.

UPON A LADY THAT DIED IN CHILD-BED, AND LEFT
A DAUGHTER BEHIND HER.

As gilly-flowers do but stay
To blow, and seed, and so away,
So you, sweet lady, sweet as May,
The garden's glory, liv'd awhile,
To lend the world your scent and smile :
But when your own fair print was set
Once in a virgin flosculet,
Sweet as yourself, and newly b'own,
To give that life, resign'd your own ;
But so, as still the mother's power
Lives in the pretty lady-flower.

XCVI.

UPON A CHILD.

Virgins promis'd when I dy'd,
That they would each primrose-tide,
Duly morn and evening come,
And with flowers dress my tomb.
Having promised, pay your debts,
Maids, and here strew violets.

XCVII.

UPON A MAID.

Hence a blessed soul is fled,
Leaving here the body dead ;
Which, since here they can't combine
For the saint, we'll keep the shrine.

XCVIII.

UPON A CHILD THAT DIED.

Here she lies, a pretty bud,
 Lately made of flesh and blood;
 Who, as soon fell fast asleep,
 As her little eyes did peep.
 Give her strewings, but not stir
 The earth, that lightly covers her.

XCIX.

UPON BEN JONSON.

Here lies Jonson with the rest
 Of the poets; but the best.
 Reader, wouldst thou more have known?
 Ask his story, not this stone;
 That will speak, what this can't tell
 Of his glory. So farewell.

C.

UPON HIMSELF BEING BURIED.

Let me sleep this night away,
 Till the dawning of the day;
 Then at th' opening of mine eyes,
 I, and all the world shall rise.

CI.

UPON A VIRGIN.

Here a solemn fast we keep,
 While all beauty lies asleep,
 Hush'd be all things, no noise here
 But the toning of a tear;
 Or a sigh of such as bring
 Cowslips for her covering.

CII.

* UPON A CHILD. AN EPITAPH.

But born, and like a short delight,
 I glided by my parents' sight.
 That done, the harder fates denied
 My longer stay, and so I died.
 If pitying my sad parents' tears,
 You'll spill a tear or two with theirs;
 And with some flowers my grave bestrew,
 Love and they'll thank you for't. Adieu.

CIII.

UPON A COMELY AND CURIOUS MAID.

If men can say that beauty dies,
 Marbles will swear that here it lies.
 If, reader, then thou canst forbear,
 In public loss to shed a tear,
 The dew of grief upon this stone
 Will tell thee, pity thou hast none.

CIV.

ON HIMSELF.

Weep for the dead, for they have lost this light;
 And weep for me, lost in an endless night:
 Or mourn, or make a marble verse for me,
 Who writ for many. Benedicite.

CV. *

ON HIMSELF.

Lost to the world; lost to myself; alone
 Here now I rest under this marble stone,
 In depth of silence, heard and seen of none.

APHORISMS.

CVI.

FAME MAKES US FORWARD.

To print our poems, the propulsive cause
Is Fame, the breath of popular applause.

APHORISMS.

CVII.

TRUE FRIENDSHIP.

Wilt thou my true friend be?
Then love not mine but me.

CVIII.

CRUELTY BASE IN COMMANDERS.

Nothing can be more loathsome, than to see
Power conjoin'd with Nature's cruelty.

CIX.

LITTLE AND LOUD.

Little you are; for woman's sake be proud;
But my sake next, though little be not loud.

CX.

SHIPWRECK.

He who has suffered shipwreck, fears to sail
Upon the seas, though with a gentle gale.

CXI.

POVERTY AND RICHES.

Give want her welcome, if she comes ; we find
Riches to be but burthens to the mind.

CXII.

AGAIN.

Who with a little cannot be content,
Endures an everlasting punishment.

CXIII.

LAW'S.

When Law's full power have to sway, we see
Little or no part there of tyranny.

CXIV.

GOOD LUCK NOT LASTING.

If well the dice run, let's applaud the cast ;
The happy fortune will not always last.

CXV.

GLORY.

I make no haste to have my numbers read ·
Seldom comes glory till a man be dead.

CXVI.

POETS.

Wantons we are ; and though our words be such,
Our lives do differ from our lines by much.

CXVII.

NO DESPITE TO THE DEAD.

Reproach we may the living, not the dead ·
'Tis cowardice to bite the buried.

CXXVIII

PAINTING SOMETIME PERMITTED.

If Nature do deny
Colours, let Art supply.

CXIX.

PHYSICIANS.

Physicians fight not against men, but these
Combat for men, by conquering the disease.

CXX.

LONG LOOK'D FOR COMES AT LAST.

Though long it be, years may repay the debt;
None loseth that which he in time may get.

CXXI.

NEVER TOO LATE TO DIE.

No man comes late unto that place, from whence
Never man yet had a regredience.

CXXII.

THE COVETOUS STILL CAPTIVES.

Let's live with that small pittance that we have;
Who covets more is evermore a slave.

CXXIII.

MEAN THINGS OVERCOME MIGHTY.

By the weakest means things mighty are o'erthrown,
He's lord of thy life who contemns his own.

CXXIV.

KINGS.

Men are not born kings, but are men renown'd;
Chose first, confirm'd next, and at last are crown'd.

CXXV.

FIRST WORK, AND THEN WAGES.

Prepost'rous is that order, when we run
To ask our wages ere our work be done.

CXXVI.

TEARS AND LAUGHTER.

Knew'st thou one month wo'd take thy life away,
Thou'dst weep: but laugh, sho'd it not last a day.

CXXVII.

GLORY.

Glory no other thing is, Tully says,
Than a man's frequent fame spoke out with praise.

CXXVIII.

POSSESSIONS.

Those possessions short-lived are,
Into the which we come by war.

CXXIX.

POVERTY THE GREATEST PACK.

To mortal men great loads allotted be,
But of all packs, no pack like poverty.

CXXX.

TRUE SAFETY.

'Tis not the walls, or purple, that defends
A prince from foes, but 'tis his fort of friends.

CXXXI.

FAME.

'Tis still observed, that fame ne'er sings
The order, but the sum of things.

CXXXII.

BY USE COMES BUSINESS.

Oft bend the bow, and thou with ease shalt do
What others can't with all their strength put to.

CXXXIII.

MONEY MAKES THE MIRTH.

When all birds else do of their music fail,
Money's the still sweet singing nightingale.

CXXXIV.

MAIDS NAYS ARE NOTHING.

Maids nays are nothing, they are shy,
But to desire what they deny.

CXXXV.

DELAY.

Break off delay, since we but read of one
That ever prosper'd by cunctation.

CXXXVI.

AMBITION.

In ways to greatness, think on this,
That slippery all ambition is.

CXXXVII.

THE ROSEMARY BRANCH.

Grow for two ends, it matters not at all,
Be't for my bridal or my burial.

CXXXVIII.

ONCE SEEN, AND NO MORE.

Thousands each day pass by, which we,
Once past and gone, no more shall see.

HESPERIDES.

XXXIX.

LOVE.

This axiom I have often heard,
Kings ought to be more lov'd than fear'd.

CXL.

DENIAL IN WOMEN NO DISHEARTENING TO MEN.

Women, although they ne'er so goolly make it,
Their fashion is, but to say no, to take it.

CXLI.

THE LAST STROKE STRIKES SURE.

Though by well-warding many^s blows we 've past,
That stroke most fear'd is which is struck the last.

CXLII.

PERSEVERANCE.

Hast thou begun an act? ne'er then give o'er;
No man despairs to do what's done before.

CXLIII.

DISTANCE BETTERS DIGNITY.

Kings must not oft be seen by public eyes,
State at a distance adds to dignity.

CXLIY.

ADVERSITY.

Love is maintain'd by wealth; when all is spent
Adversity then breeds the discontent.

CXLV.

FORTUNE.

Fortune's a blind profuser of her own,
Too much she gives to some, enough to none.

CXLVI.

WRITING.

When words we want, love teacheth to indite,
And what we blush to speak, she bids us write.

CXLVII.

SOCIETY.

Two things do make society stand;
The first commerce is, and the next command.

CXLVIII.

SATISFACTION FOR SUFFERINGS.

For all our works a recompense is sure;
'Tis sweet to think on what was hard to endure.

CXLIX.

NEED.

Who begs to die for fear of human need,
Wisheth his body, not his soul good speed.

CL.

THE BODY.

The body is the soul's poor house or home,
Whose ribs the bones are, and whose flesh the beam.

CLI.

ON LOVE.

Love is a kind of war: hence those who fear,
No cowards must his royal ensigns bear.

CLII.

ANOTHER.

Where love begins, there doth thy first desire;
A spark neglected makes a mighty fire.

CLIII.
Factions.

'The factions of the great ones call,
To side with them, the commons all.

CLIV.
Slavery.

'Tis liberty to serve one lord ; - but he
Who many serves, serves base servility.

CLV.
Surfeits.

Bad are all surfeits ; but physicians call
That surfeit took by bread, the worst of all.

CLVI.
Tears.

Tears most prevail ; with tears too thou may'st move
Rocks to relent, and coyest maids to love.

CLVII.
Truth.

Truth is best found out by the time and eyes,
Falsehood wins credit by uncertain ties.

CLVIII.
The eyes before the ears.

We credit most our sight ; one eye doth please
Our trust far more than ten ear-witnesses.

CLIX.
' Wait.

Want is a softer wax, that takes thereon.
This, that, and every base impression.

CL.

BLAME.

In battles what disasters fall, .
The king, he bears the blame of all.

CLXI.

• TWILIGHT.

Twilight, no other thing is, poets say,
Than the last part of night, and first of day.

CLXII.

• VERSES.

Who will not honour noble numbers, when
Verses outlive the bravest deeds of men?

CLXIII.

HAPPINESS.

That Happiness does still the longest thrive,
Where joys and griefs have turns alternative.

CLXIV.

THINGS OF CHOICE, LONG COMING.

We pray 'gainst war, yet we enjoy no peace;
Desire deferr'd is, that it may increase.

CLXV.

BURIAL.

Man may want land to live in; but for all,
Nature finds out some place for burial.

CLXVI.

• THE MEAN.

Imparity doth ever discord bring;
The mean, the music makes in everything.

CLVII.

HIS LOSS.

All has been plundered from me but my wit;
Fortune herself can lay no claim to it.

CLXVIII.

UPON LOVE.

Love is a circle, and an endless sphere,
From good to good, revolving here and there.

CLXIX.

LENITY.

'Tis the surgeon's praise, and height of art,
Not to cut off but cure the vicious part.

CLXX.

GRIEF.

Consider sorrows, how they are aright;
Grief, if 't be great, 'tis short; if long, 'tis light.

CLXXI.

COUNSEL.

'Twas Cæsar's saying; kings no less conquerors are
By their wise counsel, than they be by war.

CLXXII.

MOST WORDS, LESS WORKS.

In desp'rate cases, all, or most are known
Commanders; few for execution.

CLXXIII.

DRAW AND PINK,

Milk still your fountains and your springs; for why?
The more they're drawn, the less they will grow dry.

CLXXI.

PENITENCE.

Who after his transgression doth repent,
Is half, or altogether innocent.

CLXXV.

BEAUTY.

Beauty's no other but a lovely grace
Of lively colours flowing from the face.

CLXXVI.

READINESS.

The readiness of doing doth express
No other but the doer's willingness.

CLXXVII.

THE EYE.

A wanton and lascivious eye
Betrays the heart's adultery.

CLXXVIII.

VIRTUE BEST UNITED.

By so much, virtue is the less,
By how much, near to singleness.

CLXXIX.

REGRESSION SPOILS RESOLUTION.

Hast thou attempted greatness? then go on;
Back-turning slackens resolution.

CLXXX.

CONTENTION.

Discreet and prudent we that discord call,
That either profits, or not hurts at all.

CLXXXI.

CONSULTATION.

Consult ere thou begin'st; that done, go on;
With all wise speed for execution.

CLXXXII.

OUR OWN SINS UNSEEN.

Other men's sins we ever bear in mind;
None sees the fardel of his faults behind.

CLXXXIII.

NO PAINS, NO GAINS.

If little labour, little are our gains
Man's fortunes are according to his pains.

CLXXXIV.

EXAMPLES: OR, LIKE PRINCE LIKE PEOPLE.

Examples lead us, and we likely see,
Such as the prince is, will his people be.

CLXXXV.

POTENTATES.

Love and the Graces evermore doth wait
Upon the man that is a potentate.

CLXXXVI.

DEATH ENDS ALL WOE.

Time is the bound of things; where'er we go,
Fate gives a meeting; death's the end of woe.

CLXXXVII.

CLEMENCY IN KINGS.

Kings must not only cherish up the good,
But must be niggards of the meanest blood.

CLXXV. 11.

ANGER.

Wrongs, if neglected, vanish in short time;
But heard with anger, we confess the crime.

CLXXXIX.

MODERATION.

In things a moderation keep;
Kings ought to *shear*, not *skin* their sheep.

CXC.

POWER AND PEACE.

'Tis never, or but seldom known,
Power and Peace to keep one throne.

CXCI.

CRUELITIES.

Nero commanded, but withdrew his eyes
From the beholding death and cruelties.

CXCII.

HEALTH.

Health is no other, as the learned hold,
But a just measure both of heat and cold.

CXCIII.

BITING OF BEGGARS.

Who, railing, drives the lazar from his door,
Instead of alms, sets dogs upon the poor.

CXCLV.

ADVERSITY.

Adversity hurts none but only such
Whom whitest fortune dandled has too much.

DESPERIDES.

CXCIV.

WANT.

Need is no vice at all, though here it be,
With men a loathed inconveniency.

CXCVI.

GRIEF.

Sorrows divided amongst many, less
Discruciate a man in deep distress.

CXCVII.

NO ACTION HARD TO AFFECTION.

Nothing hard or harsh can prove
Unto those that truly love.

CXCVIII.

REWARDS AND PUNISHMENTS.

All things are open to these two events,
Or to rewards, or else to punishments.

CXCIX.

SHAME, NO STATIST.

Shame is a bad attendant to a state;
He rents his crown that fears the people's hate.

CC.

KISSING AND BUSSING.

Kissing and bussing differ both in this;
We buss our wantons, but our wives we kiss.

CCL.

CROSS AND PILE.

Fair and foul days trip cross and pile; the fair
Far less in number than our foul days are.

CCII.

LOSS FROM THE LEAST.

Great men by small means oft are overthrown ;
He's lord of thy life, who contemns his own.

CCIII.

GREAT SPIRITS SUPERVIVE.

Our mortal parts may wrapt in sere-clothes lie ;
Great spirits never with their bodies die.

CCIV.

THE CREDIT OF THE CONQUEROR.

He who commends the vanquish'd, speaks the power
And glorifies the worthy conqueror.

CHANGE GIVES CONTENT.

What now we like, anon we disapprove ;
The new successor drives away old love.

CCVI.

ACCUSATION.

If Accusation only can draw blood,
None shall be guiltless, be he ne'er so good.

CCVII.

PRIDE ALLOWABLE IN POETS.

As thou deserv'st, be proud ; then gladly let
The Muse give thee the Delphic coronet.

CCVIII.

DISCORD NOT DISADVANTAGEOUS.

Fortune no higher project can devise,
Than to sow discord 'mongst thy enemies.

CIX.

ILL GOVERNMENT.

Preposterous is that government, and rude,
When kings obey the wilder multitude.

CCX.

NONE FREE FROM FAULT.

Out of the world he must who once comes in;
No man exempted is from death or sin.

CCXI.

PITY TO THE PROSTRATE.

'Tis worse than barbarous cruelty to show
No part of pity on a conquer'd foe.

CCXII.

REWARDS.

Still to our gains our chief respect is had;
Reward it is that makes us good or bad.

CCXIII.

NOTHING NEW.

Nothing is new; we walk where others went.
There's no vice now, but has its precedent.

CCXIV.

GAIN AND GETTINGS.

When others gain much by the present cast,
The cobbler's getting-time, is at the last.

CCXV.

LOTS TO BE LIVED.

Learn this of me, where'er thy lot doth fall;
Short lot, or not, to be content with all.

CCXVI.

GRIEFS.

Jove may afford us thousands of reliefs;
Since man expos'd is to a world of griefs.

CCXVII.

EMPIRES.

Empires of kings are now, and ever were
As Sallust saith, coincident to fear.

CCXVIII.

PUTREFACTION.

Putrefaction is the end
Of all that Nature doth intend.

CCXIX.

PASSION.

Were these not a matter known,
There would be no Passion.

CCXX.

THE CROWD AND COMPANY.

In holy meetings, there a man may be
One of the Crowd, not of the Company.

CCXXI.

POLICY IN PRINCES.

That Princes may possess a surer seat,
'Tis fit they make no one with them too great.

CCXXII.

HIS WEAKNESS IN WOES.

I cannot suffer; and in this, my part
Of patience wants. Grief breaks the stoutest heart.

CCXXIII.

MAN'S DYING-PLACE UNCERTAIN.

Man knows where first he ships himself; but he
Never can tell where shall his landing be.

CCXXIV.

NOTHING FREE-COST.

Nothing comes free-cost here; Jove will not let
His gifts go from him, if not bought with sweat.

CCXXV.

BEGINNING, DIFFICULT.

Hard are the two first stairs unto a crown;
Which got, the third bids him a king come down.

CCXXVI.

RLST.

On with thy work, though thou be'st hardly press'd;
Labour is held up by the hope of rest.

CCXXVII.

COMFORTS IN CROSSES.

Be not dismayed, though crosses cast thee down;
Thy fall is but the rising to a crown.

CCXXVIII.

PARTIAL-GILT POETRY.

Let's strive to be the best; the Gods, we know it,
Pillars, and men, hate an indifferent poet.

CCXXIX.

FEAR GIVES FORCE.

Despair takes heart, when there's no hope to speed;
The coward then takes arms, and does the deed.

CCXXX.

NO MAN WITHOUT MONEY.

No man such rare parts hath, that he can swim
If favour or occasion help not him.

CCXXXI.

THE PRESENT TIME BEST PLEASETH.

Praise, they that will, times past; I joy to see
Myself now live; this age best pleaseth me.

CCXXXII.

BAD WAGES FOR GOOD SERVICE.

In this misfortune kings do most excel,
To hear the worst from men when they do well.

CCXXXIII.

CHOOSE FOR THE BEST.

Give house-room to the best; 'tis never known,
Virtue and pleasure both to dwell in one.

CCXXXIV.

BAD MAY BE BETTER.

Man may at first transgress, but next do well;
Vice doth in some but lodge a while, not dwell.

CCXXXV.

RULES FOR OUR REACH.

Men must have bounds how far to walk; for we
Are made far worse by lawless liberty.

CCXXXVI.

MORE MODEST; MORE MANLY.

'Tis still observ'd, those men most valiant are
That are most modest ere they come to war.

CCXXXVII.

CRUELTY.

'Tis but a dog-like madness in bad kings,
For to delight in wounds and murderings.

CCXXXVIII.

CLOTHES ARE CONSPIRATORS.

Though from without no foes at all we fear;
We shall be wounded by the clothes we wear.

CCXXXIX.

FAITH FOUR-SQUARE.

Faith is a thing that's four-square; let it fall
This way or that, it not declines at all.

CCXL.

FAIR AFTER FOUL.

Tears quickly dry; griefs will in time decay;
A clear will come after a cloudy day.

CCXLI.

PRESENT GOVERNMENT GRIEVOUS.

Men are suspicious, prone to discontent;
Subjects still loath the present government.

CCXLII.

PATIENCE IN PRINCES.

Kings must not use the axe for each offence;
Princes cure some faults by their patience.

CCXLIII.

NOT TO COVET MUCH WHERE LITTLE IS THE
CHARGE.

Why should we covet much, when as we know
W've more to bear our charge, than way to go.

CCXLIV.

STRENGTH TO SUPPORT SOVEREIGNTY.

Let kings and rulers learn this line from me ;
Where power is weak, unsafe is majesty.

CCXLV.

SUSPICION MAKES SECURE.

He that will live of all cares dispossess'd,
Must shun the bad, aye, and suspect the best.

CCXLVI.

CARE A GOOD KEEPER.

Care keeps the conquest ; 'tis no less renown
To keep a city, than to win a town.

CCXLVII.

, SEEK AND FIND.

Attempt the end, and never stand to doubt ;
Nothing's so hard, but search will find it out.

CCXLVIII.

MULTITUDE.

We trust not to the multitude in war,
But to the stout, and those that skilful are.

CCXLIX.

RAPINE BRINGS RUIN.

What's got by justice, is establish'd sure ;
No kingdoms got by rapine long endure.

CCL.

THE FIRST MARS OR MAKES.

In all our high designments, 'twill appear,
The first event breeds confidence or fear.

CCLI.

ADVICE THE BEST ACTOR.

Still take advice ; though counsels, when they fly
At random, sometimes hit most happily.

CCLII.

PEACE NOT PERMANENT.

Great cities seldom rest ; if there be none
T'invade from far, they'll find worse foes at home.

CCLIII.

MODERATION.

Let moderation on thy passions wait ;
Who loves too much, too much the lov'd will hate.

CCLIV.

CAUTION IN COUNCIL.

Know when to speak ; for many times it bring
Danger, to give the best advice to kings.

CCLV.

PARDONS.

Those ends in war the best contentment bring,
Whose peace is made up with a pardoning.

CCLVI.

WIT PUNISHED PROSPERS MOST.

Dread not the shackles ; on with thine intent ;
Good wits get more fame by their punishment.

CCLVII.

TRUTH AND ERROR.

'Twixt truth and error there's this difference known,
Error is fruitful, truth is only one.

CCLVIII.

THE MEAN.

'Tis much among the filthy to be clean ;
Our heat of youth can hardly keep the mean.

CCLIX.

LAWS.

Who violates the customs, hurts the health,
Not of one man, but all the commonwealth.

CCLX.

STUDIES TO BE SUPPORTED.

Studies themselves will languish and decay,
When either price or praise is ta'en away.

CCLXI.

CONFORMITY IS COMELY.

Conformity gives comeliness to things,
And equal shares exclude all murmurings.

CCLXII.

THINGS MORTAL STILL MUTABLE.

Things are uncertain, and the more we get,
The more on icy pavements we are set.

CCLXIII.

GREAT MALADIES, LONG MEDICINES.

To an old sore a long cure must go on ;
Great faults require great satisfaction.

CCLXIV.

FEAR.

Man must do well out of a good intent,
Not for the servile fear of punishment.

CCLXV.

OBEDIENCE IN SUBJECTS.

The gods to kings the judgment give to sway;
The subjects only glory to obey.

CCLXVI.

MORE POTENT LESS PECCANT.

He that may sin sins least; leave to transgress
Enfeebles much the seeds of wickedness.

CCLXVII.

CROSSES.

Though good things answer many good intents,
Crosses do still bring forth the best events.

CCLXVIII.

MISERIES.

Though hourly comforts from the gods we see,
No life is yet life-proof from misery.

CCLXIX.

THE HAND AND TONGUE.

Two parts of us successively command;
The tongue in peace, but then in war the hand.

CCLXX.

THE POWER IN THE PEOPLE.

Let kings command, and do the best they may,
The saucy subjects still will bear the sway.

CCLXXI.

MONEY GETS THE MASTERY.

Fight thou with shafts of silver, and o'ercome
When no force else can get the masterdom.

CCLXXII.

VIRTUE IS SENSIBLE OF SUFFERING.

Though a wise man all pressures can sustain ;
His virtue still is sensible of pain.

CCLXXIII.

SOFT MUSIC.

The mellow touch of music most doth wound
The soul, when it doth rather sigh than sound.

CCLXXIV.

PRESENCE AND ABSENCE.

When what is lov'd is present, love doth spring ;
But being absent, love lies languishing.

CCLXXV.

BRIBES AND GIFTS GET ALL.

Dead falls the cause, if once the hand be mute ;
But let that speak, the client gets the suit.

CCLXXVI.

VIRTUE.

Each must in Virtue strive for to excel ,
That man lives twice, that lives the first life well.

CCLXXVII.

PREVISION, OR PROVISION.

That prince takes soon enough the victor's room,
Who first provides, not to be overcome.

CCLXXVIII.

CASUALTIES.

Good things, that come of course, far less do please
Than those which come by sweet contingencies.

CCLXXIX.

REVERENCE TO RICHES.

Like to the income must be our expense ;
 Man's misfortune must be had in reverence.

CCLXXX.

DEVOTION MAKES THE DEITY.

Who forms a Godhead out of gold or stone,
 Makes not a God, but he that prays to one.

CCLXXXI.

AMBITION.

In man, Ambition is the common'st thing ;
 Each one by nature loves to be a king.

CCLXXXII.

ZEAL REQUIRED IN LOVE.

I'll do my best to win whene'er I woo ;
 That man loves not who is not zealous too.

CCLXXXIII.

THE DEFINITION OF BEAUTY.

Beauty no other thing is than a beam
 Flash'd out between the middle and extreme.

CCLXXXIV.

HOPE HEARTENS.

None goes to warfare, but with this intent ;
 The gains must dead the fear of detriment.

CCLXXXV.

SOME COMFORT IN CALAMITY.

To conquer'd men, some comfort 'tis to fall
 By th' hand of him who is the general.

CCLXXXVI.

EXPENSES EXHAUST.

Live with a thrifty, not a needy fate ;
Small shots, paid often, waste a vast estate.

CCLXXVII.

SORROWS SUCCEED.

When one is past, another care we have,
Thus woe succeeds a woe ; as wave a wave.

CCLXXXVIII.

DREAMS.

Here we are all by day ; by night we're hurl'd
By dreams, each one into a sev'ral world.

CCLXXXIX.

TREASON.

The seeds of treason choke up as they spring,
He acts the crime that gives it cherishing.

CCXC.

TWO THINGS ODISIOUS.

Two, of a thousand things, are disallow'd,
A lying rich man, and a poor man proud.

CLXCI.

NO BASHFULNESS IN JEGGING.

To get thine ends, lay bashfulness aside ;
Who fears to ask, doth teach to be deny'd.

CCXCII.

NEGLECT.

Art quickens Nature ; Care will make a face ;
Neglected beauty perisheth apace.

CCXCIII.

LIKE LOVES HIS LIKE.

Like will to like; each creature loves his kind
Chaste words proceed still from a bashful mind.

CCXCIV.

THE MORE MIGHTY, THE MORE MERCIFUL.

Who may do most, does least; the bravest will
Shew mercy there, where they have power to kill.

CCXCV.

TWILIGHT.

The twilight is no other thing, we say,
Than night now gone, and yet not sprung the day.

CCXCVI.

COMFORT IN CALAMITY.

'Tis no discomfort in the world to fall,
When the great crack not crushes one, but all.

CCXCVII.

SMART.

Stripes. justly given, yerk us with their fall,
But causeless whipping smarts the most of all.

CCXCVIII.

ON FORTUNE.

This is my comfort; when she's most unkind,
She can but spoil me of my means, not mind.

CCXCIX.

FALSE MOURNING.

He who wears black, and mourns not for the dead,
Does but deride the party buried.

CCC.

MERITS MAKE THE MAN.

Our honours and our commendations be
Due to the merits, not authority.

CCCI.

GOLD BEFORE GOODNESS.

How rich a man is, all desire to know,
But none enquires if good he be, or no.

CCCII.

REPLETION.

Physicians say, repletion springs
More from the sweet than sour things.

CCCIII.

DANGERS WAIT ON KINGS.

As oft as night is banish'd by the morn,
So oft we'll think we see a King new born.

CCCIV.

EVENT OF THINGS NOT IN OUR POWER.

By time and counsel, do the best we can,
Th' event is never in the power of man.

CCCV.

THE DIFFERENCE BETWIXT KINGS AND SUBJECTS.

'Twixt kings and subjects there's this mighty odds,
Subjects are taught by men ; kings by the gods.

CCCVI.

SAFETY ON THE SHORE.

What though the sea be calm ? Trust to the shore :
Ships have been drown'd, where late they danc'd
before.

CCCVII.

SUFFERANCE.

In the hope of ease to come,
Let's endure one martyrdom.

CCCVIII.

THE EYES.

'Tis a known principle in war,
The eyes be first that conquer'd are.

CCCIX.

SINGLE LIFE MOST SECURE.

Suspicion, discontent, and strife,
Come in for dowry with a wife.

CCCX.

BASHFULNESS.

Of all our parts, the eyes express
The sweetest kind of bashfulness.

CCCXI.

FEW FORTUNATE.

Many we are, and yet but few possess
Those fields of everlasting happiness.

CCCXII.

SUPREME FORTUNE FALLS SOONEST.

While leanest beasts in pastures feed,
The fattest ox the first must bleed.

CCCXIII.

HUNGER.

Ask me what hunger is, and I'll reply,
'Tis but a fierce desire of hot and dry.

CCCXIV.

DISTRUST.

Whatever men for loyalty pretend,
'Tis wisdom's part to doubt a faithful friend.

CCCXV.

PLEASURES PERNICIOUS.

Where pleasures rule a kingdom, never there
Is sober virtue seen to move her sphere.

CCCXVI.

EXCESS.

Excess is sluttish; keep the mean; for why?
Virtue's clean concave is sobriety.

CCCXVII.

RECOMPENSE.

Who plants an olive, but to eat the oil?
Reward, we know, is the chief end of toil.

CCCXVIII.

THE WILL MAKES THE WORK, OR CONSENT MAKES
THE CURE.

No grief is grown so desperate, but the ill
Is half way cured, if the party will.

CCCXIX.

SAUCE FOR SORROWS.

Although our suffering meet with no relief,
An equal mind is the best sauce for grief.

CCCXX.

NO DANGER TO MEN DESPERATE.

When fear admits no hope of safety, then
Necessity makes dastards valiant men.

CCCXXI.

GENTLENESS.

That prince must govern with a gentle hand,
Who will have love comply with his command.

CCCXXII.

ON LOVE.

That love 'twixt men does ever longest last,
Where war and peace the dice by turns do cast

CCCXXIII.

THE SOUL IS THE SALT.

The body's salt the soul is; which when gone,
The flesh soon sucks in putrefaction.

CCCXXIV.

FLATTERY.

What is't that wastes a prince? example shows
'Tis flattery spends a king more than his foes.

CCCXXV.

UPON KINGS.

Kings must be dauntless; subjects will contemn
Those who want hearts, and wear a diadem.

CCCXXVI.

A KING AND NO KING.

That prince who may do nothing but what's just,
Rules but by leave, and takes his crown on trust.

CCCXXVII.

PLOTS NOT STILL PROSPEROUS.

All are not ill plots that do sometimes fail,
Nor those false vows which oft times don't prevail.

CCCXXVIII.

FOOLISHNESS.

In's Tusc'lanes, Tully doth confess,
No plague there's like to foolishness.

CCCXXIX.

TRUTH AND FALSEHOOD.

Truth by her own simplicity is known;
Falsehood by varnish and vermillion.

CCCXXX.

ON LOVE.

Love's of itself too sweet; the best of all
Is, when love's honey has a dash of gall.

CCCXXXI.

'BAINENCE.

Against diseases here the strongest fence
Is the defensive virtue, abstinence.

CCCXXXII.

WAR.

If kings and kingdoms once distracted be,
The sword of war must try the sovereignty.

CCCXXXIII.

THE VOICE AND VIOL.

Rare is the voice itself, but when we sing
To the lute or viol, then 'tis ravishing.

CCCXXXIV.

OBEDIENCE.

No man so well a kingdom rules, as he
Who hath himself obeyed the sovereignty.

CCCXXXV.

AFTER AUTUMN, WINTER.

Die, ere long, I'm sure I shall ;
After leaves the tree must fall.

CCCXXXVI.

A GOOD DEATH.

For truth I may this sentence tell,
No man dies ill that liveth well.

CCCXXXVII.

SINCERITY.

Wash clean the vessel, lest ye sour
Whatever liquor in ye pour.

CCCXXXVIII.

DIET.

If wholesome diet can re-cure a man,
What need of physic or physician ?

CCCXXXIX.

SPEAK IN SEASON.

When times are troubled, then forbear ; but speak
When a clear day out of a cloud does break.

CCCXI

THE END.

If well thou hast begun, go on fore-right ;
It is the end that crowns us, not the fight.

CCCXLI.

THE END.

Conquer we shall, but we must first contend ;
'Tis not the fight that crowns us, but the end.

ENCOMIASTIC VERSES.

CCCXLII.

TO HIS MUSE.

Go woo young Charles no more to look,
Than but to read this in my book ;
How Herrick begs if that he can-
Not like the Muse, to love the man,
Who by the shepherds sung long since,
The star-led birth of Charles the Prince.

ENCOMIASTIC VERSES.

CCCXLIII.

THE POET'S GOOD WISHES FOR THE
MOST HOPEFUL AND HANDSOME PRINCE,
THE DUKE OF YORK.

May his pretty dukeship grow
Like t' a rose of Jericho;
Sweeter far than ever yet
Show'rs or sunshines could beget.
May the graces and the hours
Screw his hopes, and him with flowers;
And so dress him up with love,
As to be the chick of Jove.
May the thrice-three-sisters sing
Him the sovereign of their spring;
And entitle none to be
Prince of Helicon but he.
May his soft foot, where it treads,
Gardens thence produce and meads;
And those meadows full be set
With the rose and the violet.
May his ample name be known
To the last succession;
And his actions high be told
Through the world, but writ in gold.

CCCXLIV.

TO THE RIGHT HONOURABLE MILD MAY,
EARL OF WESTMORELAND.

You are a lord, an earl, nay more, a man,
Who writes sweet numbers well as any can;
If so, why then are not these verses hurl'd,
Like Sibyls' leaves, throughout the ample world?
What is a jewel, if it be not set
Forth by a ring, or some rich carcanet?
But being so, then the beholders cry,
See, see a gem, as rare as Bælus' eye.
Then public praise does run upon the stone,
For a most rich, a rare, a precious one.
Expose your jewels then unto the view,
That we may praise them, or themselves prize you.
Virtue conceal'd, with Horace you'll confess,
Differs not much from drowsy slothfulness.

CCCXLV.

UPON M. BEN JONSON.

After the rare arch-poet Jonson died,
The sock grew loathsome, and the buskins pride,
Together with the stage's glory, stood
Each like a poor and pitied widowhood,
The cirque prophan'd was, and all postures rack'd;
For men did strut, and stride, and stare, not act.
Then temper flew from words, and men did squeak,
Look red, and blow, and bluster, but not speak;
No holy rage or frantic fires did stir,
Or flash about the spacious theatre.

No clap of hands, or shout, or praises proof
 Did crack the playhouse sides, or cleave her roof.
 Artless the scene was, and that monstrous sin
 Of deep and arrant ignorance came in ;
 Such ignorance as theirs was, who once hiss'd
 At thy unequall'd play, the Alchymist ;
 Oh, fie upon 'em ! Lastly, too, all wit
 In utter darkness did, and still will sit
 Sleeping the luckless age out, till that she
 Her resurrection has again with thee.

CCCXLI.VI.

ANOTHER.

Thou had'st the wreath before, now take the tree ;
 That henceforth none be laurel crown'd but thee.

CCCXL.VII.

TO THE LADY MARY VILLARS, GOVERNESS TO
 THE PRINCESS HENRIETTA.

When I of Villars do but hear the name,
 It calls to mind that mighty Buckingham,
 Who was your brave exalted uncle here,
 Binding the whole of fortune to his sphere ;
 Who spurn'd at en: y, and could bring, with ease,
 An end, to all his stately purposcs.
 For his love then, whose sacred reliques show
 Their resurrection and their growth in you ;
 And for my sake, who ever did prefer
 You above all those sweets of Westminster ;
 Permit my book to have a free access
 To kiss your hand, most dainty governess.

CCCXLVIII.

TO THE RIGHT HONOURABLE PHILIP. EARL OF
PEMBROKE AND MONTGOMERY.

How dull and dead are books, that cannot show
A Prince of Pembroke, and that Pembroke you !
You, who are high born, and a lord no less
Free by your fate, than fortune's mightiness,
Who hung our poems, honour'd sir, and then
The paper gild, and laureat the pen.
Nor suffer you the poets to sit cold,
But warm their wits, and turn their lines to gold.
Others there be, who righteously will swear
Those smooth-pac'd numbers, amble every where ;
And these brave measures go a stately trot ;
Love those like these ; regard, reward them not.
But you, my lord, are one whose hand along
Goes with your mouth, or does outrun your tongue,
Paying before you praise, and cock'ring wit,
Give both the gold and garland unto it.

CCCXLIX.

TO THE HIGH AND NOBLE PRINCE GEORGE, DUKE,
MARQUIS, AND EARL OF BUCKINGHAM.

Never my book's perfection did appear,
Till I had got the name of Villars here ;
Now, 'tis so full, that when therein I look,
I see a cloud of glory fills my book.
Here stand it still to dignify our muse,
Your sober hand-maid ; who doth wisely choose
Your name to be a laureate wreath to her,
Who doth both love and fear you, honour'd sir.

CCCL.

TO THE QUEEN.

Goddess of youth, and lady of the spring,
Most fit to be the consort to a king,
Be pleas'd to rest you in this sacred grove,
Beset with myrtles, whose each leaf drops love.
Many a sweet-faced wood-nymph here is seen,
Of which chaste order you are now the Queen.
Witness their homage when they come and strew
Your walks with flowers, and give their crowns to you.
Your levy throne, with lily-work possess,
And be both princess here, and poetess.

CCCLI.

TO THE KING.

If when these lyrics, Cæsar, you shall hear
And that Apollo shall so touch your ear,
As for to make this, that, or any one
Number, your own, by free adoption;
That verse, of all the verses here, shall be
The heir to this great realm of poetry.

CCCLII.

TO HIS NEPHEW, TO BE PROSPEROUS IN HIS
ART OF PAINTING.

On, as thou hast begun, brave youth, and get
The palm from Urbin, Titian, Tintaret,
Brugel, and Coxu, and the works outdo
Of Holbein, and that mighty Ruben too.
So draw, and paint, as none may do the like,
No, not the glory of the word, Vandike.

CCCLIII.

TO HIS PECULIAR FRIEND, SIR EDWARD FISH,
' KNIGHT BARONET.

Since for thy dull deserts, with all the rest
Of these chaste spirits, that are here possess'd
Of life eternal, time has made thee one
For growth in this my rich plantation ;
Live here ; but know 'twas virtue, and not chance,
'That gave thee this so high inheritance.
Keep it forever ; ground'd with the good,
Who hold fast here an endless lively fool.

CCCLIV.

TO HIS PECULIAR FRIEND, MASTER THOMAS
SHAPCOTT, LAWYER.

I've paid thee what I promis'd, that's not all ;
Besides, I give thee here a verse that shall,
When hence thy circum-mortal part is gone,
Arch-like, hold up, thy name's inscription.
Brave men can't die ; whose candid actions are
Writ in the poet's endless calendar :
Whose vellum and whose volume is the sky,
And the pure stars the praising poetry.

Farewell.

CCCLV.

TO MISTRESS MARY WILLAND,

One more by thee, love, and desert have sent
T' ensangle this expansive firmament.
O flame of beauty ! come, appear, appear
A Virgin taper, ever shining here.

CCCLVI.

TO THE RIGHT GRACIOUS PRINCE, LODWICK,
DUKE OF RICHMOND AND LENOX.

Of all those three brave brothers, fall'n i' the war,
(Not without glory) noble sir, you are,
Despite of all concussions, left the stem
To shoot forth generations like to them.
Which may be done, if, sir, you can beget
Men in their substance, not in counterfeit.
Such essences as those three brothers, known
Eternal by their own production.
Of whom, from Faute's white trumpet, this I'll tell,
Worthy their everlasting chronicle,
Never since first Bellona us'd a shield,
Such three brave brothers fell in Mars's field.
These were those three Horatii Rome did boast;
Rome's where these three Horatii we have lost.
One Cordelion had that age long since,
These three, which three you make up, four, brave
prince.

CCCLVII.

TO HIS KINSMAN, SIR THOS. SOAME.

Seeing thee, Soame, I see a goodly man,
And in that good a great patrician;
Next to which two, among the city powers
And thrones, thy self one of those senators;
Not wearing purple only for the show,
As many conscripts of the city do,
But for true service, worthy of that gown,
The golden chain, too, and the civic crown.

CCCLVIII.

TO HIS WORTHY FRIEND, M. THO. FALCONBURGE.

Stand with thy graces forth, brave man, and rise
 High with thine own auspicious destinies ;
 Nor leave the search and proof till thou canst find
 These, or those ends, to which thou wast design'd.
 Thy lucky genius, and thy gilding star,
 Have made thee prosperous in thy ways thus far ;
 Nor will they leave thee, till they both have shown
 Thee to the world a prime and public one.
 Then, when thou see'st thine age all turn'd to gold,
 Remember what thy Herrick thee foretold,
 When at the holy threshold of thine house,
 He boled good luck to thyself and spouse.
 Lastly, be mindful, when thou art grown great,
 That tow'rs high rear'd dread most the lightning's
 threat ;
 When as the humble cottages not fear
 The cleaving bolt of Jove the thunderer.

CCCLIX.

TO HIS HONOURED KINSMAN, SIR WILLIAM SOAME.

I can but name thee, and methinks I call
 All that have been, or are canonical
 For love and bounty, to come near and see
 Their many virtues volumn'd up in thee ;
 In thee, brave man, whose uncorrupted fame
 Casts forth a light like to a virgin flame ;
 And as it shines, it throws a scent about,
 As when a rainbow in perfumes goes out.
 So vanish hence, but leave a name as sweet
 As Benjamin and Storax, when they meet.

TO MISTRESS KATHARINE BRADSHAW, THE LOVELY,
THAT CROWNED HIM WITH LAUREL.

My Muse in meads has spent her many hours,
Sitting, and sorting several sorts of flowers,
To make for others garlands; and to set
On many a head here many a coronet.
But amongst all encircled here, not one
Gave her a day of coronation;
Till you, sweet mistress, came and interwove
A laurel for her, ever young as love.
You first of all crown'd her; she must, of due,
Render for that a crown of life to you.

CCCLXI.

TO HIS FAITHFUL FRIEND, MASTER JOHN CROFTS,
(CUP-BEARER TO THE KING.

For all thy many courtesies to me,
Nothing I have, my Crofts, to send to thee
For the requital, save this only one
Half of my just remuneration.
For since I've travell'd all this realm throughout,
To seek and find some few immortals out,
To circumsangle this my spacious sphere,
As lamps for everlasting shining here;
And having fix'd thee in mine orb, a star
Amongst the rest, both bright and singular,
The present age will tell the world thou art,
If not to th' whole, yet satisfied in part;
As for the rest, being too great a sum
Here to be paid, I'll pay't i'th' world to come.

CCCLXII.

TO HIS KINSWOMAN, MRS. PENELOPE WHEELER.

Next is your lot, fair, to be number'd one
 Here, in my book's canonization ;
 Late you come in, but you a saint shall be,
 In chief, in this poetic liturgy.

CCCLXIII.

ANOTHER UPON HER.

First, for your shape, the curious cannot show
 Any one part that's dissonant in you ;
 And 'gainst your chaste behaviour there's no plea,
 Since you are known to be Penelope.
 Thus fair and clean you are, although there be
 A mighty strife 'twixt form and chastity.

CCCLXIV.

TO THE MOST LEARNED, WISE, AND ARCH
 ANTIQUARY, M. JOHN SELDEN.

" I who have favor'd many, come to be
 Grac'd, now at last, or glorified by thee.
 Lo, I, the lyric prophet, who have set
 On many a head the Delphic coronet,
 Come unto thee for laurel, having spent
 My wreaths on those who little gave or lent.
 Give me the Daphne, that the world may know it,
 Whom they neglected thou hast crown'd a poet.
 A city here of heroes I have made,
 Upon the rock, whose firm foundation laid,
 Shall never shrink ; where making thine abode
 Live thou a Selden, that's a demi-god.

CCCLXV.

TO THE PATRON OF POETS, M. ENJ. PORTER.

Let there be patrons; patrons like to thee,
 Brave Porter! Poets ne'er will wanting be.
 Fabius, and Cotta, Lentulus, all live
 In thee, thou man of men! who here do'st give
 Not only subject-matter for our wit,
 But likewise oil of maintenance to it.
 For which, before thy threshold, we'll lay down
 Our thyrse for sceptre, and our bays for crown.
 For, to say truth, all garlands are thy due;
 The laurel, myrtle, oak, and ivy too.

CCCLXVI.

TO THE RIGHT HONOURABLE EDWARD, EARL
OF DORSET.

If I dare write to you, my lord, who are
 Of your own self a public theatre;
 And sitting, see the while, ways, walks of wit,
 And give a righteous judgment upon it;
 What need I care, though some dislike me should.
 If Dorset say, what Herrick writes is good?
 We know ye're learn'd i' th' Muses, and no less
 In our state-sanctions, deep, or bottomless;
 Whose smile can make a poet, and your glance
 Dash all bad poems out of countenance;
 So that an author needs no other bays
 For coronation, than your only praise;
 And no one mischief greater than your frown,
 To null his numbers, and to blast his crown.
 Few live the life immortal. He ensures
 His fame's long life, who strives to set up yours.

CCCLXVII.

TO THE KING, TO CURE THE EVIL.

To find that tree of life, whose fruits did feed,
 And leaves did heal, all sick of human seed ;
 To find Bethesda, and an angel there,
 Stirring the waters, I am come ; and here
 At last I find, after my much to do,
 The tree, Bethesda, and the angel too ;
 And all in your blest hand, which has the powers
 Of all those suppling healing herbs and flowers.
 To that soft charm, that spell, that magic bough,
 That Ligh enchantment I betake me now ;
 And to that hand, the branch of Heaven's fair tree,
 I kneel for help ; O lay that hand on me,
 Adored Cæsar ! and my faith is such,
 I shall be healed, if that my King but touch.
 The evil is not yours ; my sorrow sings,
 Mine is the evil, but the cure the King's.

CCCLXVIII.

TO HIS HONOURED KINSMAN, SIR RICHARD STONE.

To this white temple of my heroes, here
 Beset with stately figures every where,
 Of such rare saintships, who did here consume
 Their lives in sweets, and left in death perfume ;
 Come thou, brave man ! and bring with thee a Stone
 Unto thine own edification.
 High are these statues here, besides no less
 Strong than the heavens for everlastingness ;
 Where build aloft, and being fix'd by these
 Set up thine own eternal images.

CCCLXIX.

TO THE MOST VIRTUOUS MISTRESS POT, WHO
MANY TIMES ENTERTAINED HIM.

When I through all my many poems look,
And see yourself to beautify my book;
Methinks that only lustre doth appear
A light fulfilling all the region here;
Gild still with flames this firmament, and be
A lamp eternal to my poetry;
Which, if it now, or shall hereafter shine,
'Twas by your splendour, lady, not by mine.
The oil was yours, and that I owe for yet.
He pays the half who does confess the debt.

CCCLXX.

UPON HIS KINSWOMAN, MISTRESS ELIZABETH
HERRICK.

Sweet virgin, that I do not set
The pillars up of weeping jet,
Or mournful marble, let thy shade
Not wrathful seem, or fright the maid,
Who hither at her wonted hours
Shall come to strew thy earth with flowers.
No, know, blest maid, when there's not one
Remainder left of brass or stone,
Thy living epitaph shall be,
Though lost in them, yet found in me.
Dear, in thy bed of roses, then,
Till this world shall dissolve as men,
S'leep, while we hide thee from the light,
Drawing thy curtains round; Good night.

TO DOCTOR ALABLASTER.

Nor art thou less esteem'd that I have plac'd,
 Amongst mine honour'd, thee almost the last;
 In great possessions many lead the way
 To him who is the triumph of the day,
 As these have done to thee, who art the one,
 One only glory of a million;
 In whom the spirit of the gods does dwell,
 Firing thy soul, by which thou dost foretell,
 When this or that vast dynasty must fall
 Down to a fillit more imperial;
 When this or that horn shall be broke, and when
 Others shall spring up in their place again;
 When times and seasons, and all years must lie
 Drown'd in the sea of wild eternity:
 When the Black Doom's-day book, as yet unseal'd,
 Shall by the mighty Angel be reveal'd;
 And when the trumpet which thou late hast found,
 Shall call to judgment; tell us when the sound
 Of this or that great April day shall be,
 And next the Gospel, we will credit thee.
 Mean time, like earth-worms we will crawl below,
 And wonder at those things that thou dost know.

CCCXXII.

TO M. LAURENCE SWEETNAHAM.

Read thou my lines, my Sweetnaham, if there be
 A fault, 'tis hid if it be vic'd by thee:
 Thy mouth will make the sourest numbers please;
 How will it drop pure honey, speaking these?

CCCLXXIII.

TO HIS WORTHY KINSMAN, MR. STEPHEN SOAME.

Nor is my number full, till I inscribe
 Thee, sprightly Soame, one of my righteous tribe;
 A tribe of one lip, leven, and of one
 Civil behaviour and religion;
 A stock of saints, where ev'ry one doth wear
 A stole of white, and canonized here;
 Among which holies be thou ever known,
 Brave kinsman, mark'd out with the whiter stone,
 Which seals thy glory, since I do prefer
 Thee here in my eternal calender.

CCCLXXIV.

TO HIS HONOURED FRIEND, SIR JOHN MINCE.

For civil, clean, and circumcised wit,
 And for the comely carriage of it,
 Thou art the man, the only man best known,
 Mark'd for the true wit of a million;
 From whom we'll reckon wit came in, but since
 The calculation of thy birth, brave Mince.

CCCLXXV.

TO HIS HONOURED FRIEND SIR THOMAS HEALE.

Stand by the magic of my powerful rhymes,
 'Gainst all the indignation of the times;
 Age shall not wrong thee, or one jot abate
 Of thy both great and everlasting fate:
 While others perish, here's thy life decreed,
 Because begot of my immortal seed.

CCCLXXVI.

TO THE MOST ACCOMPLISHED GENTLEMAN,
 MASTER EDWARD MORGATE,
 CLERK OF THE SIGNET TO HIS MAJESTY.

For one so rarely tun'd to fit all parts ;
 For one to whom espous'd are all the arts ;
 Long have I sought for ; but could never see
 Them all concenter'd in one man, but thee.
 Thus thou that man art, whom the Fates conspir'd
 To make but one, and that's thyself, admir'd.

CCCLXXVI.

TO PRINCE CHARLES, UPON HIS COMING TO EXETER.

What Fate decreed, Time now has made us see
 A renovation of the west by thee :
 That preternatural fever, which did threat
 Death to our country, now hath lost his heat ;
 And calms succeeding, we perceive no more
 Th' unequal pulse to beat, as heretofore.
 Something there yet remains for thee to do ;
 Then reach those ends that thou was destin'd to ;
 Go on with Sylla's fortune ; let thy fate
 Make thee like him, this, that way fortunate ;
 Apollo's image side with thee to bless
 Thy war, discreetly made, with white success :
 Meantime thy prophets watch by watch shall pray,
 While young Charles fights, and fighting wins the
 day.

That done, our smooth-plac'd poems all shall be
 Sung in the high doxology of thee :
 Then maids shall strew thee, and thy curls from them
 Receive, with songs, a flowery diadem.

CCCLXXVIII.

TO THE KING, UPON HIS COMING WITH HIS ARMY
INTO THE WEST.

Welcome, most welcome to our vows and us,
Most great and universal Genius !
The drooping west, which hitherto has stood
As one, in long-lamented widowhood,
Looks like a bride now, or a bed of flowers,
Newly refresh'd both by the sun and showers ;
War, which before was horrid, now appears
Lovely in you, brave Prince, of Cavaliers !
A deal of courage in each bosom springs
By your access, O you the best of Kings !
Ride on with all white omens, so that where
Your standard's up, we fix a conquest there.

CCCLXXIX.

TO THE KING.

Give way, give way ; now, now my Charles shines
here,
A public light, in this immensive sphere ;
Some stars were fix'd before, but these are dim,
Compar'd, in this my ample orb, to him.
Draw in your feeble fires, while that he
Appears but in his meaner majesty ;
Where, if such glory flashes from his name,
Which is his shade, who can abide his flame !
Princes, and such like public lights as these,
Must not be look'd on but at distances ;
For, if we gaze on these brave lamps too near,
Our eyes they'll blind, or if not blind, they'll blear.

CCCLXXX.

TO HIS DEAR VALENTINE, MRS. MARGARET FALCON-
BRIDGE.

Now is your turn, my dearest to be set
A gem in this eternal coronet ;
'Twas rich before, but since your name is down,
It sparkles now like Ariadne's crown.
Blaze by this sphere for ever : or this do,
Let me and it shine evermore by you.

CCCLXXXI.

TO HIS HONOURABLE FRIEND, M. JOHN WEARE,
COUNSELLOR.

Did I or love, or could I others draw
To the indulgence of the rugged law ;
The first foundation of that zeal should be
By reading all her paragraphs in thee,
Who dost so fitly with the laws unite,
As if you two were one hermaphrodite ;
Nor courts thou her because she's well attended
With wealth, but for those ends she was intended ;
Which were, and still her offices are known,
Law is to give to ev'ry one his own ;
To shore the feeble up against the strong,
To shield the stranger and the poor from wrong :
This was the founder's grave and good intent,
To keep the outcast in his tenement ;
To free the orphan from that wolf-like man,
Who is his butcher more than guardian ;
To dry the widow's tears, and stop her swoons,
By pouring balm and oil into her wounds ;

This was the old way, and 'tis yet thy course
 To keep those pious principles in force.
 Modest I will be, but one word I'll say,
 Like to a sound that's vanishing away,
 Sooner the inside of thy hand shall grow
 Hisped and hairy, ere thy palm shall know
 A postern-bribe took, or a forked fee
 To fetter justice, when she might be free.
 Eggs I'll not shave; but yet, brave man, if I
 Was destin'd forth to golden sovereignty;
 A prince I'd be, that I might thee prefer
 To be my counsel both and chancellor.

CCCLXXXII.

TO THE MOST COMELY AND PROPER M. ELIZABETH
 FINCH.

Handsome you are, and proper you will be,
 Despite of all your infortunity;
 Live long and lovely, but yet grow no less
 In that your own prefix'd comeliness;
 Spend on that stock, and when your life must fall,
 Leave others beauty to set up withal. •

CCCLXXXIII.

TO THE HONOURED MASTER ENDYMION PORTER.

When to thy porch I come, and, ravish'd, see
 The state of poets there attending thee;
 Those bards, and I, all in a chorus sing,
 "We are thy prophets, Porter; thou our king."

CCCLXXXIV.

TO SIR JOHN BERKLEY, GOVERNOR OF EXETER.

Stand forth, brave man, since Fate has made thee here
 The Hector over aged Exeter ;
 Who for a long sad time has weeping stood,
 Like a poor lady lost in widowhood :
 But fears not now to see her safety sold,
 As other towns and cities were, for gold,
 By those ignoble births, which shame the stem
 That gave procreation unto them ;
 Whose restless ghosts shall hear their children sing,
 Our sires betrayed their country and their king.
 True, if this city seven times rounded was
 With rock, and seven times circumflank'd with brass,
 Yet, if thou wert not, Berkley, loyal proof,
 The senators down tumbling with the roof,
 Would into prais'd but pitied, ruins fall,
 Leaving no show where stood the capital.
 But thou art just and itchless, and dost please
 Thy genius with two strength'ning buttresses,
 Faith, and affection ; which will never slip
 To weaken this thy great Dictatorship.

CCCLXXXV.

TO HIS WORTHY FRIEND, M. ARTHUR BARTLY.

When after many lustres thou shalt be
 Wrap'd up in sere-cloth with thine ancestry ;
 When of thy ragg'd escutcheons shall be seen
 So little left, as if they ne'er had been ;
 Thou shalt thy name have, and thy fame's best trust,
 Here with the generation of my just.

CCCLXXXVI.

UPON M. WILLIAM LAWES, THE RAKE MUSICIAN.

Should I not put on blacks, when each one here
Comes with his cypress, and devotes a tear?
Should I not grieve, nay Lawes, when every lute,
Viol, and voice is, by thy loss, struck mute?
Thy loss, brave man! whose numbers have been hurl'd,
And no less prais'd than spread throughout the world:
Some have thee call'd Amphion; some of us
Nam'd thee Terpauder, or sweet Orpheus;
Some this, some that, but all in this agree,
Music had both her birth and death with thee.

, CCCLXXXVII.

TO HIS HONOURED AND MOST INGENIOUS FRIEND
MR. CHARLES COTTON.

For brave comportment, wit without offence,
Words fully flowing, yet of influence,
Thou art that man of men, the man alone
Worthy the public admiration;
Who with thine own eyes read'st what we do write,
And giv'st our numbers euphony and weight;
Toll'st when a verse springs high, how understood
To be, or not, born of the royal blood:
What state above, what symmetry below,
Lines have, or should have, thou the best can show;
For which, my Charles, it is my pride to be,
Not so much known, as to be lov'd of thee;
Long may I live so, and my wreath of bays
Be less another's laurel than thy praise.

CCCLXXXVI.

TO M. LEONARD WILLAN, HIS PECULIAR FRIEND.

I will be short, and having quickly hurl'd
 This line about, live thou throughout the world,
 Who art a man for all scenes ; unto whom,
 What's hard to others, nothing's troublesome :
 Can'st write the comic, tragic strain, and fall
 From these to pen the pleasing pastoral :
 Who flit'st at all heights ; prose and verse runs't
 through ;
 Find'st here a fault, and mend'st the trespass too ;
 For which I might extol thee, but speak less,
 Because thyself art coming to the press ;
 And then should I in praising thee be slow,
 Posterity will pay thee what I owe.

CCCLXXXIX.

TO HIS WORTHY FRIEND, M. JOHN HALL, STUDENT
 OF GRAY'S-INN.

Tell me, young man, or did the Muses bring
 The less to taste, than to drink up their spring ;
 That none hereafter should be thought, or be
 A poet, or a poet-like, but thee ?
 What was thy birth, thy star that makes thee known,
 At twice ten years, a prime and public one ?
 Tell us thy nation, kindred, or the whence
 Thou had'st and hast thy mighty influence,
 That makes thee lov'd, and of the men desir'd,
 And no less prais'd, than of the maids admir'd.
 Put on thy laurel then, and in that trim
 Be thou Apollo, or the type of him ;
 Or let the unshorn god lend thee his lyre,
 And next to him, be master of the choir.

CCCXC.

TO HIS BROTHER, NICHOLAS HERRICK.

What others have with cheapness seen, and ease,
 In varnish'd maps, by the help of compasses ;
 Or read in volumes, and those books withal
 Their large narrations, incanonical,
 Thou hast beheld those seas and countries far ;
 And tell'st to us what once they were and are ;
 So that with bold truth thou canst now relate
 This kingdom's fortune, and that empire's fate ;
 Canst talk to us of Sharon, where a spring
 Of roses have an endless flourishing ;
 Of Sion, Sinai, Nebo, and with them,
 Make known to us the New Jerusalem ;
 The Mount of Olives, Calvary, and where
 Is, and hast seen, thy Saviour's sepulchre :
 So that the man that will but lay his ears,
 As inapostate, to the thing he hears,
 Shall by his hearing quickly come to see
 The truth of travels less in books than thee.

CCCXCI.

TO THE MOST ACCOMPLISHED GENTLEMAN, MASTER
MICHAEL OULSWORTH.

Nor think that thou in this my book art worst,
 Because not plac'd here with the midst, or first ;
 Since fame that sides with these, or goes before
 Those that must live with thee for evermore ;
 That fame, and fame's rear'd pillar, thou shalt see
 In the next sheet, brave man, to follow thee :
 Fix on that column then, and never fall,
 Held up by fame's eternal pedestal.

CCCXCII.

THE SCHOOL OR PEARL OF PUTNEY, THE MISTRESS
OF ALL SINGULAR MANNERS, MRS. PORTMAN.

Whether I was myself, or else did see
Out of myself that glorious hierarchy;
Or whether those, in orders rare, or these
Made up one state of sixty Venuses;
Or whether fairies, syrens, nymphs they were,
Or muses, on their mountain sitting there;
Or some enchanted place, I do not know;
Or Sharon, where eternal roses grow;
This I am sure, I ravish'd stood, as one
Confus'd in utter admiration.
Methought I saw them stir, and gently move,
And look as all were capable of love;
And in their motion smelt much like to flowers
Inspir'd by th' sun-beams after dews and showers.
There did I see the Reverend Rectress stand,
Who with her eyes-gleam, or a glance of hand,
'Those spirits rais'd, and with like precepts then,
As with a magic, laid them all again:
A happy realm! when no compulsive law,
Or fear of it, but love keeps all in awe,
Live you, great mistress of your hearts, and be
A nursing mother so to majesty,
As those your ladies may in time be seen,
For grace and carriage every one a queen.
One birth their parents gave them, but their new
And better being, they receive from you:
Man's former birth is graceless, but the state
Of life comes in when he's regenerate.

CCCXCIII.

TO THE KING, UPON HIS WELCOME TO HAMPTON
COURT. SET AND SUNG.

Welcome, Great Cæsar! welcome now you are,
As dearest peace after destructive war;
Welcome as slumbers, or as beds of ease,
After our long and peevish sicknesses.
O pomp of glory! Welcome now, and come
To repossess once more your long'd-for home;
A thousand altars smoke, a thousand thighs
Of beeves here ready stand for sacrifice:
Enter and prosper, while our eyes do wait
For an ascendant thoroughly auspicious;
Under which sign we may the former stone
Lay of our safeties new foundation.
That done, O Cæsar! live, and be to us
Our Fate, our Fortune, and our Genius;
To whose free knees we may our temples tie,
As to a still protecting Deity:
That should you stir, we, and our altars too,
May, Great Augustus, go along with you.
Chor. Long live the King; and to accomplish this,
We'll from our own add far more years to his.

CCCXCIV.

TO HIS KINSMAN, M. TJO. HERRICK, WHO DESIRED
TO BE IN HIS BOOK.

Welcome to this my college, and, though late
Thou'st got a place here, standing candidate;
It matters not, since thou art chosen one
Here of my great and good foundation.

CCCXCV.

ULTIMUS HEROUM; OR,
TO THE MÖST LEARNED, AND TO THE RIGHT
HON. HENRY, MARQUIS OF DORCHESTER.

And as, time past, when Cato the severe,
Entered the circumspacious theatre,
In reverence of his person, every one
Stood as he had been turn'd from flesh to stone;
E'en so my numbers will astonish'd be,
If but look'd on; struck dead, if scan'd by thee.

CCCXCVI.

TO HIS MUSE. ANOTHER TO THE SAME.

Tell that brave man, fain thou would'st have access
To kiss his hands; but that for fearfulness,
Or else, because th'art like a modest bride,
Ready to blush to death should he but chide.

CCCXCVII.

TO M. HENRY LAWES, THE EXCELLENT COMPOSER
OF HIS LYRICS.

Touch but thy lyre, my Harry, and I hear
From thee some raptures of the rare Gotiere;
Then if thy voice comingle with the string,
I hear in thee the rare Laniere to sing,
Or curious Wilson; tell me, canst thou be
Less than Apollo, that usurp'st such three;
Three, unto whom the whole world give applause:
Yet their three praises praise but one, that's Lawes.

CCCXCVIII.

TO SIR GEORGE PARRY, DOCTOR OF THE CIVIL LAW.

I have my laurel chaplet on my head,
If 'mongst these many numbers to be read,
But one by you be hug'd and cherished.

Peruse my measures thoroughly, and where
Your judgment finds a guilty poem, there
Be you a judge, but not a judge severe.

The mean pass by, or over; none condemn;
The good applaud; the peccant less condemn,
Since absolution you can give to them.

Stand forth, brave man, here to the public sight,
And in my book now claim a two-fold-right;
The first as Doctor, and the last as Knight.

CCCXCIX.

TO HIS LEARNED FRIEND, M. JO. HARMAR,
PHYSICIAN TO THE COLLEGE OF
WESTMINSTER.

When first I find those numbers thou do'st write,
To be most soft, terse, sweet, and perpolite;
Next, when I see thee towering in the sky,
In an expanse no less large than high;
Then in that compass, sailing here and there,
And with circumgyration everywhere;
Following with love and active heat thy game,
And then at last to truss the epigram;

I must confess, distinction none I see
 Between Domitian's Martial then and thee
 But this I know, should Jupiter again
 Descend from heaven, to re-converse with men ;
 The Roman language, full and superfine,
 If Jove would speak, he would accept of thine.

CCCC.

TO HIS BROTHER-IN-LAW, MASTER JOHN
 WINGFIELD.

For being comely, consonant; and free
 To most of men, but most of all to me ;
 For so decreeing, that thy clothes' expense
 Keeps still within a just circumference ;
 Then for contriving so to load thy board,
 As that the messes ne'r o'rlaid the Lord ;
 Next, for ordaining that thy words not swell
 To any one unsobersyllable ;
 These I could praise thee, for beyond another,
 Wert thou a Wingfield only, not a brother.

CCCCI.

TO THE HANDSOME MRS. GRACE POTTER.

As is your name, so is your comely face ,
 Touch'd everywhere with such diffused grace
 As that in all that admirable round,
 There is not one least solecism found ;
 And as that part, so every portion else
 Keeps line for line with beauty's parallels.

cccii.

TO HIS PECULIAR FRIEND, M. JO. WICKS.

Since shed or cottage I have none,
I sing the more, that thou hast one ;
To whose glad threshld, and free door
I may a poet come, though poor,
And eat with thee a savory bit,
Paying but common thanks for it :
Yet should I chance, my Wicks, to see
An over leaven look in thee,
To souf the bread, and turn the beer
To an exalted vinegar ;
Or should'st thou prize me as a dish
Of thrice-boil'd worts, or third days fish,
I'd rather hungry go and come,
Than to thy house be burdensome ;
Yet, in my depth of grief, I'd be
One that should drop his beads for thee.

ccciii

TO THE KING, UPON HIS TAKING OF LEICESTER.

This day is yours, Great Charles ! and in this war
Your fate and ours alike victorious are.
In her white stole, now victory does rest,
Ensphere'd with palm on your triumphant crest ;
Fortune is now your captive ; other kings
Hold but her hands ; you hold both hands and wings.

CCCCIV.

TO HIS FRIEND MASTER J. JINCKS.

Love, love me now, because I place
 Thee here among my righteous race;
 The bastard slips may droop and die,
 Wanting both root and earth, but thy
 Immortal self shall boldly trust
 To live for ever with my Just.

CCCCV.

TO THE LORD HOPTON, ON HIS FIGHT IN CORNWALL.

Go on, brave Hopton, to effectuate that
 Which we, and times to come, shall wonder at:
 Lift up thy sword; next, suffer it to fall,
 And by that one blow set an end to all.

CCCCVI.

TO HIS SISTER-IN-LAW, M. SUSANNAH HERRICK.

The person crowns the place; your lot doth fall
 Last, yet to be with these a principal:
 How ere it fortun'd, know, for truth, I meant
 You a fore-leader in this testament

CCCCVII.

TO THE EARL OF WESTMORELAND.

When my date's done, and my grey age must die;
 Nurse up, great lord, this my posterity;
 Weak though it be, long may it grow, and stand,
 Shor'd up by you, brave Earl of Westmoreland.

MORAL AND PATHETIC.

CCCCVIII.

A PSALM, OR HYMN TO THE GRACES.

Glory be to the Graces,
That do in public places,
Drive thence what ere encumbers
The list'ning to my numbers!

Honour be to the Graces,
Who do with sweet embraces,
Show they are well contented
With what I have invented!

Worship be to the Graces,
'Who do from sour faces,
And lungs that would infect me,
For evermore protect me!

MORAL AND PATHETIC.

CCCCIX.

TO M^r. DENHAM, ON HIS PROSPECTIVE POEM,

Oh look'd I back unto the times hence flown,
 To praise those muses, and dislike our own;
 Or did I walk those Pean gardens through,
 To kick the flow'rs, and scorn their odours too;
 I might, and justly, be reputed here
 One nicely mad, or peevishly severe;
 But by Apollo! as I worship wit,
 Where I have cause to burn perfumes to it,
 So, I confess, 'tis somewhat to do well
 In our high art, although we can't excel,
 Like you; or dare the buskirs to unloose
 Of thy brave, bold, and sweet Maronian muse.
 But since I'm call'd rare Denham, to be gone,
 Take from thy Herrick this conclusion;
 'Tis dignity in others, if they be
 Crown'd poets, yet live princes under thee;
 Tho' while their wreaths and purple robes do shine,
 Less by their own gems than those beams of thine.

CCCCX.

TO HIS DYING BROTHER, MASTER WILLIAM
HERRICK.

Life of my life, take not so soon thy flight,
But stay the time till we have bade good night.
Thou hast both wind and tide with thee; thy way
As soon dispatch'd is by the night as day.
Let us not then so rudely henceforth go
'Till we have wept, kiss'd, sigh'd, shook hands, or so.
There's pain in parting, and a kind of hell
When once true lovers take their last farewell.
What? shall we two our endless leaves take, here
Without a sad look, or a solemn tear?
He knows not love that hath not this truth proved,
'Love is most loth to leave the thing beloved.
Pay we our vows and go, yet when we part,
Then, even then, I will bequeath my heart
Into thy loving hands; for I'll keep none
To warm my breast, when thou my pulse art gone:
No, here I'll last, and walk, a harmless shade,
About this urn, wherein thy dust is laid,
To guard it so as nothing here shall be
Heavy, to hurt those sacred seeds of thee.

CCCCXI.

TO MISTRESS DOROTHY PARSONS.

If thou ask me, dear, wherefore
I do write of thee no more;
I must answer, sweet thy part
Less is here than in my heart.

CCCCXII.

UPON THE TROUBLESOME TIMES.

O! Times most bad,
 Without the scope
 Of hope
 Of better to be had!

Where shall I go,
 Or whither run,
 To shun
 This public overthrow?

No places are,
 This I am sure,
 Secure
 In this our wasting war.

Some storms we've past;
 Yet we must all
 Down fall,
 And perish at the last.

CCCCXIII.

ON HIMSELF.

I will no longer kiss,
 I can no longer stay;
 • The way of all flesh is,
 That I must go this day:
 Since longer I can't live,
 My frolic youths, adieu:
 My lamp to you I'll give,
 And all my troubles too.

CCCCXIV.

UPON HIS SISTER-IN-LAW, MRS. ELIZAB. HERRICK.

First, for effusions due unto the dead,
 My solemn vows have here accomplished;
 Next, how I love thee, that my grief must tell,
 Wherein thou liv'st for ever. Dear, farewell!

CCCCXV.

UPON THE BISHOP OF LINCOLN'S IMPRISONMENT.

Never was day so over-sick with show'rs,
 But that it had some intermitting hours.
 Never was night so tedious, but it knew
 The last watch out, and saw the dawning too.
 Never was dungeon so obscurely deep,
 Wherein or light or day did never peep.
 Never did moon so ebb, or seas so wane,
 But they left hope-seed to fill up again.
 So you, my lord, though you have now your stay,
 Your night, your prison, and your ebb; you may
 Spring up afresh, when all these mists are spent,
 And star-like, once more gild our firmament.
 Let but that mighty Cæsar speak, and then
 All bolts, all bars, all gates shall cleave, as when
 That earthquake shook the house, and gave the stout
 Apostles way, unshackled, to go out.
 This, as I wish for, so I hope to see;
 Though you, my lord, have been unkind to me:
 To wound my heart, and never to apply,
 When you had power, the meanest remedy.
 Well, though my grief by you was gall'd the more,
 Yet I bring balm and oil to heal your sore.

CCCCXVI.

TO ANTHEA.

If, dear Anthea, my hard fate it be
 To live some few sad hours after thee ;
 Thy sacred corse with odours I will burn,
 And with my laurel crown thy golden urn.
 Then holding up there such religious things,
 As were, time past, thy holy fillings :
 Near to thy reverend pitcher I will fall
 Down dead with grief, and end my woes withall ;
 So three in one small plot of ground shall lay,
 Anthea, Herrick, and his poetry.

CCCCXVII.

DEAN-BOURN, A RUDE RIVER IN DEVON, BY WHICH
 SOMETIMES HE LIVED.

Dean-bourn, farewell ; I never look to see
 Dean, or thy warty incivility ;
 Thy rocky bottom, that doth tear thy streams,
 And make them frantic e'en to all extremes,
 To my content, I never should behold,
 Were thy streams silver, or thy rocks all gold.
 Rocky, thou art ; and rocky we discover
 Thy men, and rocky are thy ways all over.
 O men, O manners ; now, and ever known
 To be a rocky generation ;
 A people currish, churlish as the seas,
 And rude almost as rudest savages,
 With whom I did, and may re-sojourn : when
 Rocks turn to rivers, rivers turn to men.

CCCCXVIII.

TO SIR CLIPSBY CREW.

Since to the country first I came,
 I have lost my former flame ;
 And, methinks, I not inherit,
 As I did, my ravish'd spirit.
 If I write a verse or two,
 'Tis with very much ado ;
 In regard I want that wine
 Which should conjure up a line.
 Yet, though now of muse bereft,
 I have still the manners left
 For to thank you, noble sir,
 For those gifts you do confer
 Upon him, who only can
 Be in prose a grateful man.

CCCCXIX.

TO THE KING AND QUEEN, UPON THEIR UNHAPPY
DISTANCES.

Woe, woe to them, who by a ball of strife,
 Do, and have parted here a man and wife ;
 CHARLES, the best husband, while MARIA strives,
 To be, and is, the very best of wives ;
 Like streams, you are divorce'd, but 'twill come when
 These eyes of mine shall see you mix again.
 Thus speaks the Oak here, C. and M. shall meet,
 Treading on amber with their silver feet ;
 Nor will't be long ere this accomplish'd be ;
 The words found true, C. M. remember me.

CCCCXX.

.. THE BAD SEASON MAKES THE POET SAD.

Dull to myself, and almost dead to these,
 My many fresh and fragrant mistresses ;
 Lost to all music now, since everything
 Puts on the semblance here of sorrowing ;
 Sick is the land to th' heart ; and doth endure
 More dangerous faintings by her desp'rate cure.
 But if that golden age would come again,
 And Charles here rule, as he before did reign :
 If smooth and unperplex'd the seasons were,
 As when the sweet Maria lived here ;
 I should delight to have my curls half drown'd
 In Syrian dews, and head with roses crown'd :
 And once more yet, ere I am laid out dead,
 Knock at a star with my exalted head.

CCCXXI.

MEN MIND NO STATE IN SICKNESS.

That flow of gallants which approach
 To kiss thy hand from out the coach ;
 That fleet of lackeys which do run
 Before thy swift postilion ;
 Those strong hoof'd mules, which we behold
 Rein'd in with purple, pearl, and gold,
 And shod with silver, prove to be
 The drawers of the axle-tree ;
 Thy wife, thy children, and the state
 Of Persian looms and antique plate :
 All these, and more, shall then afford
 No joy to thee, their sickly lord.

CCCCXXII.

HIS PRAYER TO BEN JONSON.

When I a verse shall make,
 Know I have pray'd thee,
 For old religion's sake,
 Saint Ben, to aid me.

Make the way smooth for me
 When I, thy Herrick,
 Honouring thee, on my knee
 Offer my Lyric.

Candles I'll give to thee,
 And a new altar;
 And thou, Saint Ben, shalt be
 Writ in my psalter.

CCCCXXIII.

TO HIS TOMB-MAKER.

Go I must; when I am gone,
 Write but this upon my stone;
 Chaste I liv'd, without a wife,
 That's the story of my life.
 Strevings need none, every flower
 Is in this word bachelor.

CCCCXXIV.

THE POET HATH LOST HIS PIPE.

I cannot pipe as I w^ont to do,
 Broke is my reed, hoarse is my singing too;
 My wearied oat I'll hang upon the tree,
 And give it to the Sylvan deity.

CCCCXXV.

TO HIS VERSES.

What will ye, my poor orphans, do,
 When I must leave the world and you ;
 Who'll give ye then a shelt'ring shed,
 Or credit ye, when I am dead ?
 Who'll let ye by their fire sit,
 Although ye have a stock of wit,
 Already coin'd to pay for it ?
 I cannot tell ; unless there be
 Some race of old humanity
 Left, of the large heart and long hand,
 Alive, as noble Westmoreland,
 Or gallant Newark ; which brave two
 May fost'ring fathers be to you.
 If not, expect to be no less
 All used than babes left fatherless.

CCCCXXVI.

TO MY DEAREST SISTER, M. MERCY HERRICK.

Whene'er I go, or whatsoe'er befalls
 Me in mine age, or foreign funerals,
 This blessing I will leave thee ere I go,
 Prosper thy basket, and therein thy dough ;
 Feed on the paste of filberts, or else knead
 And bake the flour of amber for thy bread ;
 Balm may thy tears drop, and thy springs run oil,
 And everlasting harvest crown thy soil !
 These I but wish for ; but thyself shall see
 The blessing fall in mellow times on thee.

CCCCXXVII.

TO HIS CLOSET GODS.

When I go hence, ye closet gods, I fear
 Never again to have ingression here ;
 Where I have had, whatever things could be
 Pleasant and precious to my muse and me.
 Besides rare sweets, I had a book which none
 Could read the intext but myself alone ;
 About the cover of this book there went
 A curious comely clean compartement ;
 And in the midst, to grace it more, was set
 A blushing pretty peeping rubelet ;
 But now 'tis closed ; and being shut and seal'd,
 Be it, O be it never more reveal'd !
 Keep here still, closet gods, 'fore whom I've set
 Oblations oft of sweetest marmeleet.

CCCCXXVIII.

TO HIS FRIEND, ON THE 'UNTUNEABLE TIMES.

Play I could once ; but, gentle friend. you see
 My harp hung up here on the willow tree.
 Sing I could once ; and bravely, too, inspire,
 With luscious numbers, my melodious lyre.
 Draw, I could once, although not stocks or stones,
 Amphion-like men made of flesh and bones
 Whether I would ; but, ah ! I know not how
 I feel in this my transmutation now.
 Grief, my dear friend, has first my harp unstrung,
 Wither'd my hand, and palsy-struck my tongue.

CCCCXXIX.

HIS POETRY HIS PILLAR.

•Only a little more
 I have to write,
 Then I'll give o'er,
And bid the world good-night.

'Tis but a flying minute
 That I must stay,
 Or linger in it,
•And then I must away.

O Time, that cut'st down all!
 And scarce leav'st here
 Memorial
Of any men that were.

How many lie forgot
 In vaults beneath;
 And piece-meal rot
Without a fame in death?

Behold this living stone
 I rear for me,
 Ne'er to be thrown
Down, envious Time, by thee.

Pillars let some set up,
 If so they please,
 Here is my hope,
And my Pyramid.

CCCCXXV.

SAFETY TO LOOK TO ONE'S SELF.

For my neighbour, I'll not know
 Whether high he builds or no ;
 Only this I'll look upon,
 Firm be my foundation.
 Sound or unsound let it be,
 'Tis the lot ordain'd for me.
 He who to the ground does fall,
 Has not whence to sink at all.

CCCCXXI.

NO SHIPWRECK OF VIRTUE. TO A FRIEND.

Thou sail'st with others in this Argos here,
 Nor wreck or bulging thou hast cause to fear ;
 But trust to this, my noble passenger,
 Who swims with Virtue, he shall still be sure,
 Ulysses-like, all tempests to endure,
 And 'midst a thousand gulfs to be secure.

CCCCXXII.

THE CURSE. A SONG.

Go, perjured man ; and if thou e'er return
 To see the small remainders in mine urn ;
 When thou shalt laugh at my religious dust,
 And ask, where's now the colour, form, and trust
 Of woman's beauty ? and with hand more rude
 Rifle the flowers which the virgins strew'd ;
 Know, I have pray'd to Fury ; that some wind
 May blow my ashes up, and strike thee blind.

CCCCXXXIII.

FOUR THINGS MAKE US HAPPY HERE.

Health is the first good lent to men;
 A gentle disposition then:
 Next, to be rich by no bye-ways;
 Lastly, with friends t' enjoy our days.

CCCCXXXIV.

TO HIS HOUSEHOLD GODS.

Rise, household-gods, and let us go,
 But whither, I myself not know.
 First, let us dwell on rudest seas;
 Next, with severest savages;
 Last, let us make our best abode,
 Where human foot has yet ne'er trod;
 Search worlds of ice, and rather there
 Dwell, than in loathed Devonshire.

CCCCXXXV.

GOOD PRECEPTS, OR COUNSEL.

In all thy need, be thou possess'd
 Still wit' a well-prepared breast;
 Nor let thy shackles make thee sad;
 Thou canst but have what others had.
 And this for comfort thou must know,
 Times that are ill won't still be so;
 Clouds will not ever pour down rain;
 A sullen day will clear again.
 First peals of thunder we must hear,
 Then lutes and harps shall strike the ear.

CCCCXXXVI.

TO JULIA.

The saint-bell calls; and Julia, I must read
 The proper lessons for the saints now dead;
 To grace which service, Julia, there shall be
 One holy collect said or sung for thee.
 Dead when thou art, dear Julia, thou shalt have
 A trental sung by virgins o'er thy grave;
 Meantime we two will sing the dirge of these,
 Who dead, deserve our best remembrances.

CCCCXXXVII.

TO HIS MAID PREW.

These summer birds did with thy master stay
 The times of warmth, but then they flew away,
 Leaving the poet, being now grown old,
 Expos'd to all the coming winter's cold.
 But thou, kind Prew, did'st with my fates abide,
 As well the winter's as the summer's tide;
 For which thy love, live with thy master here,
 Not one, but all the seasons of the year.

CCCCXXXVIII.

TO ELECTRA.

Let not thy tombstone e'er be laid by me;
 Nor let my hearse be wept upon by thee;
 But let that instant when thou dy'st be known,
 The minute of mine expiration;
 One knell be rung for both, and let one grave
 To hold us two an endless honour have.

CCCCXXXIX.

HIS ALMS.

Here, here I live,
 And somewhat give
 Of what I have
 To those who crave.
 Little or much,
 My Alms is such ;
 But if my deal
 Of oil and meal
 Shall fuller grow,
 More I'll bestow.
 Mean time, be it
 E'en but a bit,
 Or else a crumb,
 The scrip hath some.

CCCCXL.

THE PLUNDER.

I am of all bereft,
 Save but some few beans left,
 Whereof, at last, to make
 For me and mine a cake ;
 Which eaten, they and I
 Will say our grace, and die.

CCCCXLI.

UPON HIS EYE-SIGHT FAILING HIM

I begin to wane in sight ;
 Shortly I shall bid good night ;
 Then no gazing more about,
 When the tapers once are out.

CCCCXLII.

A HYMN TO CLIPSEBY CREW.

'Twas not love's dart,
 Or any blow
 Of want, or foe,
 Did wound my heart
 With an eternal smart.

But only you,
 My sometimes known
 Companion,
 My dearest Crew,
 That me unkindly slew.

May your fault die,
 And have no name
 In books of fame:
 Or let it lie
 Forgotten now as I.

We parted are
 And now no more,
 As heretofore
 By jocund Larr,
 Shall be familiar.

But though we sever,
 My Crew shall see
 That I will be
 Here faithless never,
 But love my Clipsey ever.

CCCCXLIII.

A DIRGE, UPON THE DEATH OF THE RIGHT VALIANT
LORD BERNARD STUART.

Hence, hence, profane ; soft silence let us have,
While we this Trental sing about thy grave.

Had wolves or tigers seen but thee,
They would have show'd civility ;
And in compassion of thy years,
Wash'd those thy purple wounds with tears.
But since th'art slain, and in thy fall
The drooping kingdom suffers all.

Chor. This we will do ; we'll daily come
And offer tears upon thy tomb ;
And if that they will not suffice,
Thou shalt have souls for sacrifice.
Sleep in thy peace, while we with spice perfume thee,
And cedar wash thee, that no times consume thee.

Live, live thou dost, and shalt, for why ?
Souls do not with their bodies die ;
Ignoble offsprings. they may fall
Into the flames of funeral :
When as the chosen seed shall spring
Fresh, and forever flourishing.

Chor And times to come shall, weeping, read thy
glory,
Less in these marble stones, than in thy story.

CCCCXLIV.

UPON HIS DEPARTURE HENCE.

Thus I
Pass by,
And die,
As one
Unknown
And gone :
I'm made
A shade,
And laid
I'th grave,
There have
My cave :
Where, tell
I dwell,
Farewell.

CCCCXLV.

UPON HIMSELF.

Come, leave this loathed country-life, and then
Grow up to be a Roman citizen.
Those mites of time, which yet remain unspent,
Waste thou in that most civil government.
Get their comportment, and the gliding tongue
Of those mild men thou' art to live among ;
Then being seated in that smother sphere,
Decree thy everlasting topic there ;
And to the farm-house ne'er return at all,
Though granges do not love thee, cities shall

CCCCXLVI.

LEPROSY IN CLOTHES.

When flowing garments I behold,
 Inspir'd with purple, pearl, and gold ;
 I think no other, but I see
 In them a glorious leprosy,
 That does infect, and make the rent
 More mortal in the vestiment.
 As flowery vestures do descry
 The wearer's rich immodesty ;
 So plain and simple clothes do show
 Where virtue walks, not those that flow.

CCCCXLVII.

TO HIS KINSWOMAN, MISTRESS SUSANNA
HERRICK.

When I consider, dearest, thou dost stay
 But here awhile, to languish and decay ;
 Like to these garden glories, which here be
 The flow'ry sweet resemblances of thee :
 With grief of heart, methinks, I thus do cry,
 Would thou had'st ne'er been born, or might'st not
 die.

CCCCXLVIII.

THE RAINBOW.

Look how the rainbow doth appear
 But in one only hemisphere ;
 So likewise after our decease,
 No more is seen the arch of peace.
 That cov'nant's here, the under-bow,
 That nothing shoots, but war and woe.

CCCCXLIX.

THE DREAM.

By dream, I saw one of the three
 Sisters of Fate appear to me.
 Close by my bed's side she did stand,
 Showing me there a firebrand :
 She told me, too, as that did spend,
 So drew my life unto an end.
 Three-quarters were consum'd of it ;
 Only remain'd a little bit,
 Which will be burnt up by and by ;
 Then Julia, weep, for I must die.

CCCCCL.

THE CHRISTIAN MILITANT.

A man prepar'd against all ills to come,
 That dares to dread the fire of martyrdom ;
 That sleeps at home, and sailing there at ease,
 Fears not the fierce sedition of the seas ;
 That's counter-proof against the farm's mishaps,
 Undreadful too of courtly thunderclaps ;
 That wears one face, like heav'n, and never shows
 A change, when fortune either comes or goes ;
 That keeps his own strong guard, in the despite
 Of what can hurt by day, or harm by night ;
 That takes and re-delivers every stroke
 Of chance, as made up all of rock and oak ;
 That sighs at other's death, smiles at his own
 Most dire and horrid crucifixion.
 Who for true glory suffers thus, we grant
 Him to be here our Christian militant.

CCCCLI.

HIS LACHRYMÆ, OR MIRTH TURNED TO MOURNING.

Call me no more,
 As heretofore,
 The music of a feast;
 Since now, alas,
 The mirth that was
 In me, is dead or ceas'd.

Before I went
 To banishment
 Into the loathed West,
 I could rehearse
 A lyric verse,
 And speak it with the best.

But time, ah me!
 Has laid, I see,
 My organ fast asleep:
 And turn'd my voice
 Into the noise
 Of those that sit and weep.

CCCLII.

OF HIMSELF.

Ask me why I do not sing
 To the tension of the string,
 As I did not long ago,
 When my numbers full did flow?
 Grief, ah me! hath struck my lute,
 And my tongue at one time mute.

CCCCLIH.

TO THE YEW AND THE CYPRESS TO GRACE HIS
FUNERAL,

Both you two have
Relation to the grave;
And where
The funeral-trump sounds, you are there.

I shall be made
Ere long a fleeting shade;
Przy come,
And do some honour to my tomb.

Do not deny
My last request, for I
Will be
Thankful to you, or friends, for me.

CCCCLIV.

ON HIMSELF.

A wearied pilgrim I have wandered hère,
Twice five-and-twenty, bate me but one year;
Long I have lasted in this world, 'tis true,
But yet those years that I have liv'd, but few.
Who by his grey hairs doth his lustres tell,
Lives not those years, but he that lives them well:
One man has reach'd his sixty years, but he
Of all those three-score has not liv'd half three;
He lives who lives to virtue; men who cast
Their ends for pleasure, do not live, but last.

CCCCLV.

A GOOD HUSBAND.

A master of a house, as I have read,
 Must be the first man up, and last in bed ;
 With the sun rising he must walk his grounds ;
 See this, view that, and all the other bounds ;
 Shut every gate, mend every hedge that's torn,
 Either with old, or plant therein new thorn ;
 Tread o'er his glebe, but with such care, that where
 He sets his foot, he leaves rich compost there.

CCCCLVI.

ON HIMSELF.

If that my fate has now fulfill'd my year,
 And so soon stopp'd my longer living here ;
 What was't, ye gods, a dying man to save,
 But while he met with his paternal grave ;
 Though while we living 'bout the world do roam,
 We love to rest in peaceful urns at home,
 Where we may snug and close together lie,
 By the dead bones of our dear ancestry.

CCCCLVII.

PURPOSES.

No wrath of men, or rage of seas
 Can shake a just man's purposes ;
 No threats of tyrants, or the grim
 Visage of them can alter him ;
 But what he doth at first intend,
 That he holds firmly to the end.

CCCLVIII.

HOPE WELL AND HAVE WELL; OR FAIR AFTER
FOUL WEATHER.

What though the heaven be low'ring now,
And look with a contracted brow?
We shall discover, by and by,
A repurgation of the sky;
And when those clouds away are driven,
Then will appear a cheerful heaven.

CCCCLIX.

CHANGE COMMON TO ALL.

All things subject are to Fate;
Whom this morn sees most fortunate
The ev'ning sees in poor estate.

CCCCLX.

COMFORT TO A LADY UPON THE DEATH OF HER
HUSBAND.

Dry your sweet cheek, long drown'd with sorrow's rain;
Since clouds dispers'd, suns gild the air again.
Seas chafe and fret, and beat, and over-boil;
But turn soon after calm, as balm or oil.
Winds have their time to rage, but when they cease,
The leafy trees nod in a still-born peace.
Your storm is over; Lady, now appear
Like to the peeping spring-time of the year.
Off then with grave-clothes, put fresh colours on;
And flow, and flame, in your vermillion.
Upon your cheek sat icicles awhile;
Now let the rose reign like a queen, and smile.

CCCCLXI.

HIS WISH TO PRIVACY.

Give me a cell
 To dwell,
 Where no foot hath
 A path ;
 There will I spend,
 And end
 My wearied years
 In tears.

CCCCLXII.

TO BIANCHA:

Ah Biancha ! now I see
 It is noon, and past, with me ;
 In a while it will strike one,
 Then, Biancha, I am gone.
 Some effusions let me have
 Offer'd on my holy grave ;
 Then, Biancha, let me rest
 With my face towards the east.

CCCCLXIII.

●CONTENT, NOT CATES.

'Tis not the food, but the content
 That makes the table's merriment.
 Where trouble serves the board, we eat
 The platters there as soon as meat.
 A little pipkin with a bit
 Of mutton, or of veal in it,
 Set on my table, trouble-free,
 More than a feast contenteth me.

CCCCLXIV.

AN HYMN TO THE MUSES

Honour to you who sit
Near to the well of wit,
And drink your fill of it !

Glory and worship be
To you, sweet maids, thrice three,
Who still inspire me ;

And teach me how to sing,
Unto the lyric string,
My measures ravishing !

Then while I sing your praise,
My priesthood crown with bays,
Green to the end of days !

CCCCLXV.

HIS GRANGE, OR PRIVATE WEALTH

Though clock,
To tell how night draws hence, I've none,
A cock
I have to sing how day draws on
I have
A maid, my Prew, by good luck sent,
To save
That little. Fates me gave or lent :
A hen
I keep, which, creaking day by day,
Tells when
She goes her long white egg to lay:

A goose
 I have, which, with a jealous care,
 Lets loose
 Her tongue, to tell what danger's near :
 A lamb
 I keep,* tame, with my morsels fed,
 Whose dam
 An orphan left him lately dead :
 A cat
 I keep, that plays about my house,
 Grown fat
 With eating many a mousing mouse :
 To these
 A Tracy* I do keep, whereby
 I please
 The more my rural privacy :
 Which are
 But toys, to give my heart some ease.
 Where care
 None is, slight things do lightly please.

*His spaniel.

CCCCLXVI.

TO FORTUNE.

Tumble me down, and I will sit
 Upon my ruins, smiling yet ;
 Tear me to tatters,* yet I'll be
 Patient to my necessity ;
 Laugh at my scraps of clothes, and shun
 Me as a fear'd infection ;
 Yet scare-crow like I'll walk, as one
 Neglecting thy derision.

CCCCLXVII.

NOT EVERY DAY FIT FOR VERSE.

'Tis not every day that I
 Fitted am to prophesy;
 No, but when the spirit fills
 The fantastic pannicles,
 Full of fire, then I write
 As the Godhead doth indite.
 Thus enrag'd, my lines are hurl'd,
 Like the Sibyl's, through the world
 Look how next the ho'y fire
 Either slakes, or doth retire;
 So the fancy cools, till when
 That brave spirit comes again.

CCCCLXVIII.

HIS RETURN TO LONDON.

From the dull confines of the drooping west,
 To see the day spring from the pregnant east,
 Ravish'd in spirit, I come, nay more, I fly
 To thee, blest place of my nativity!
 Thus, thus with hallowed foot I touch the ground,
 With thousand blessings by thy fortune crown'd.
 O fruitful genius! that bestowest here
 An everlasting plenty year by year;
 O place! O people! manners! fram'd to please
 All nations, customs, kindreds, languages!"
 I am a free-born Roman; suffer then
 That I amongst you live a citizen.
 London my home is; though by hard fate sent
 Into a long and irksome banishment;

Yet since call'd back, henceforward let me be,
 O native country, repossess'd by thee!
 For rather than I'll to the west return,
 I'll beg of thee first here to have mine urn.
 Weak I am grown, and must in short time fall;
 Give thou my sacred reliques burial.

CCCCXLIX.

THE INVITATION.

To sup with you you did me home invite,
 And mad'st a promise that my appetite
 Should meet and time, on such luscious meat,
 The like no Heliogabalus did eat;
 And richer wine would'st give to me, thy guest,
 Than Roman Sylla pour'd out at his feast.
 I came, 'tis true, and look'd for fowl of price,
 The bastard Phoenix, bird of Paradise;
 And for no less than aromatic wine
 Of maiden-blush, commix'd with jessamine.
 Clean was the hearth, the mantle larded jet,
 Which wanting Lar and smoke, hung weeping wet;
 At last, i'th noon of winter, did appear
 A ragg'd scous'd neat's foot with sick vinegar;
 And in a burnish'd flagonet, stood by
 Beer small as comfort, dead as charity:
 At which amaz'd, and pond'ring on the food,
 How sold it was, and how it chill'd my blood;
 I curs'd the master, and I damn'd the souse,
 And swore I'd got the ague of the house.
 Well, when to eat thou dost me next desire,
 I'll bring a fever, since thou keep'st no fire.

CCCCLXX.

PROOF TO NO PURPOSE.

You see this gentle stream that glides,
 Shov'd on by quick succeeding tides;
 Try if this sober stream you can
 Follow to th' wilder ocean;
 And see, if there it keeps unspent
 In that congesting element:
 Next, from that world of waters, then
 By pores and caverns back again
 Induc'd that inadulterate same
 Stream to the spring from whence it came:
 This with a wonder when ye do,
 As easy, and else easier too,
 Then may ye recollect the grains
 Of my particular remains,
 After a thousand lustres hurl'd,
 By ruffling winds, about the world.

CCCCLXXI.

TO SILVIA.

No more, my Silvia, do I mean to pray
 For those good days that ne'er will come away:
 I want belief; O, gentle Silvia, be
 The patient saint, and send up vows for me.

CCCCXXII.

FELICITY KNOWS NO FENCE.

Of both our fortunes, good and bad, we find,
 Prosperity more searching of the mind:
 Felicity flies o'er the wall and fence,
 While misery keeps in with patience.

CCCCLXXIII.

THE SMELL OF THE SACRIFICE.

° The Gods require the thighs
 ° Of beeves for sacrifice ;
 ° Which roasted, we the steam
 Must sacrifice to them ;
 Who, though they do not eat,
 Yet love the smell of meat.

CCCCLXXIV.

THE PRIMITIÆ TO PARENTS.

Our household gods our parents be,
 And manners good require, that we
 The first fruits give to them, who gave
 Us hands to get what here we have.

CCCCLXXV.

LIKE PATTERN, LIKE PEOPLE.

This is the height of justice, that to do
 Thyself, which thou put'st other men unto.
 As great men lead, the meaner follow on,
 Or to the good or evil action.

CCCCLXXVI.

ALL THINGS DECAY AND DIE.

All things decay with time: The forest sees
 The growth and downfall of her aged trees ;
 That timber tall, which three-score lustres stood
 The proud dictator of the state-like wood ;
 I mean the sovereign of all plants, the oak
 Droops, dies, and falls without the cleaver's stroke.

CCCCLXXVII.

A TERNARIE OF LITTLES, UPON A PIPKIN OF JELLY
SENT TO A LADY.

A little saint best fits a little shrine,
A little prop best fits a little vine ;
As my small cruse best fits my little wine.

A little seed best fits a little soil,
A little trade best fits a little toil ;
As my small jar best fits my little oil.

A little bin best fits a little bread,
A little garland fits a little head ;
As my small stuff best fits my little shed.

A little hearth best fits my little fire,
A little chapel fits a little choir ;
As my small bell best fits my little spire.

A little stream best fits a little boat,
A little lead best fits a little float ;
As my small pipe best fits my little note.

A little meat best fits a little belly,
As sweetly, lady, give me leave to tell you,
This little pipkin fits this little jelly.

CCCCLXXVIII.

HIS ANSWER TO A FRIEND.

You ask me what I do, and how I live ?
And, noble friend, this answer I must give :
Drooping, I draw on to the vaults of death,
O'er which you'll walk when I am laid beneath.

CCCCCLXXIX.

CHEERFULNESS IN CHARITY ; OR THE
SWEET SACRIFICE.

'Tis not a thousand bullocks' thighs,
Can please those heavenly deities ;
If the vower don't express
In his offering, cheerfulness.

CCCCCLXXX.

ON HIMSELF.

I'll sing no more, nor will I longer write
Of that sweet lady, or that gallant knight ;
I'll sing no more of frosts, snows, dews, and showers ;
No more of groves, meads, springs, and wreaths of
flowers ;
I'll write no more, nor will I tell or sing
Of Cupid, and his witty coz'ning ;
I'll sing no more of death, or shall the grave
No more my dirges and my trentals have.

CCCCCLXXXI.

LIFE IS THE BODY'S LIGHT.

Life is the body's light ; which once declining,
Those crimson clouds in th' cheeks and lips leave
shining ;
Those counter-changed tabbies in the air,
The sun once set, all of one colour are :
So, when death comes, fresh tinctures lose their
place
And dismal darkness then doth smutch the face.

CCCCCLXXXII.

HAPPINESS TO HOSPITALITY, OR A HEARTY WISH
TO GOOD HOUSE-KEEPING.

First, may the hand of bounty bring
Into the daily offering
Of full provision such a store,
Till that the cook cries, Bring no more :
Upon your hogsheads never fall
A drought of wine, ale, beer, at all ;
But, like full clouds, may they from thence
Diffuse their mighty influence.
Next, let the lord and lady here
Enjoy a christening year by year ;
And this good blessing back them still,
T' have boys and girls too, as they will ;
Then from the porch may many a bride
Unto the holy temple ride,
And thence return, short prayers said,
A wife most richly married.
Last, may the bride and bridegroom be
Untouch'd by cold sterility ;
But in their springing blood so play,
As that in lustres few they may,
By laughing too, and laying down,
People a city or a town.

CCCCCLXXXIII.

HASTE HURTFUL.

Haste is unhappy : what we rashly do
Is both unlucky, aye, and foolish too :
Where war with rashness is attempted, there
The soldiers leave the field with equal fear.

CCCCLXXXIV.

THE SACRIFICE, BY WAY OF DISCOURSE BETWIXT
HIMSELF AND JULIA.

Herr. Come and let's in solemn wise
Both address to sacrifice;
Old religion first commands
That we wash our hearts and hands.
Is the beast exempt from stain,
Altar clean, no fire profane?
Are the garlands, is the nard,
Ready here? *Jul.* All well prepar'd,
With the wine that must be shed,
'Twixt the horns, upon the head
Of the holy beast we bring
For our trespass-offering.
Herr. All is well: now, next to these,
Put we on pure surplices;
And with chaplets crown'd, we'll roast
With perfumes the holocaust;
And, while we the gods invoke,
Read acceptance by the smoke.

CCCCLXXXV.

TO HIS FRIEND, TO AVOID CONTENTION OF WORDS.

Words beget anger; anger brings forth blows;
Blows make of dearest friends immortal foes;
For which prevention, Society, let there be
Betwixt us two no more logomachy.
Far better 'twere for either to be mute,
Than for to murder friendship by dispute.

CCCCCLXXXVI.

THE TRANSFIGURATION.

Immortal clothing I put on,
So soon as, Julia, I am gone
To mine eternal mansion.

Thou, thou art here, to human sight,
Cloth'd all with incorrupted light;
But yet how more admir'dly bright

Wilt thou appear, when thou art set
In thy refulgent thronelet,
Thar'shin'st thus in thy counterfeit?

CCCCCLXXXVII.

JULIA'S CHURCHING, OR PURIFICATION.

Put on thy holy fillitings, and so
To th' temple with the sober midwife go:
Attended thus, in a most solemn wise,
By those who serve the child-bed mysteries,
Burn first thine incense; next, (when as thou see'st
The candid stole thrown o'er the pious priest,
With reverend curtsies come, and to him bring
Thy free, and not decurted offering.
All rites well ended, with fair auspice come,
As to the breaking of a bride-cake, home;
Where ceremonious Hymen shall for thee
Provide a second epithalamie.
She who keeps chastely to her husband's side
Is not for one, but every night his bride;
And stealing still with love and fear to bed,
Brings him not one but many a maidenhead.

CCCCCLXXXVIII.

TO THE PASSENGER.

If I lie unburied, sir,
 These, my reliques, pray later ;
 'Tis religious part to see
 Stones or turfs to cover me.
 One word more I had to say,
 But it skills not ; go your way ;
 He that wants a burial room,
 For a scene, has Heaven his tomb.

CCCCCLXXXIX.

P U R G A T O R Y .

Readers, we entreat ye pray
 For the soul of Lucia ;
 That in little time she be
 From her Purgatory free :
 In th' interim she desires
 That your tears may cool her fires.

CCCCXC.

HIS CHARGE TO JULIA AT HIS DEATH.

Dearest of thousands, now the time draws near,
 That with my lines my life must full-stop here ;
 Cut off thy hairs, and let thy tears be shed
 Over my turf, when I am buried.
 Then for effusions, let none wanting be,
 Or other rites that do belong to me ;
 As love shall help thee, when thou do'st go hence
 Unto thy everlasting residence.

CCCCXCI.

POETRY PERPETUATES THE POET.

Here I myself might likewise die,
 And utterly forgotten lie,
 But that eternal poetry,
 Repullulation gives me here,
 Unto the thirtieth thousand year,
 When all now dead shall re-appear.

CCCCXCII.

TO ANTHEA.

Anthea, I am going hence
 With some small stock of innocence;
 But yet those blessed gates I see
 Withstanding entrance unto me:
 To pray for me do thou begin,
 The porter then will let me in.

CCCCXCIII.

THE BED-MAN, OR GRAVE-MAKER.

Thou hast made many houses for the dead;
 When my lot calls me to be buried,
 For love or pity, prithee let there be
 I'th' churchyard made one tenement for me.

CCCCXCIV.

CROSSES.

Our crosses are no other than the rods,
 And our diseases vultures of the gods;
 Each grief we feel, that likewise is a kite
 Sent forth by them, our flesh to eat or bite.

CCCCXCV.

THE HONEY-COMB.

If thou hast found an honey-comb,
 Eat thou not all, but taste on some ;
 For if thou eatest to excess,
 That sweetness turns to loathsomeness :
 Taste it to temper ; then 'twill be
 Marrow and manna unto thee.

CCCCXCVI.

OUT OF TIME OR TUNE.

We blame, nay, we despise her pains,
 That wets her garden when it rains ;
 But when the drought has dried the knot,
 Then let her use the watering-pot :
 We pray for showers, at our need,
 'To drench, but not to drown our seed.

CCCCXCVII.

REVENGE.

Man's disposition is for to requite
 An injury before a benefit ;
 Thanksgiving is a burden and a pain ;
 Revenge is pleasing to us, as our gain.

CCCCXCVIII.

SUFFER THAT THOU CANST NOT SHIFT.

Does Fortune rend thee ? Bear with thy hard fate ;
 Virtuous instructions ne'er are delicate.
 Say, does she frown ? Still countermand her threats ;
 Virtue best loves those children that she beats.

CCCCXCIX.

TO JULIA.

Help me, Julia, for to pray,
 Matins sing, or matins say;
 This I know, the fiend will fly
 Far away, if thou beest by:
 Bring the holy water hither;
 Let us wash and pray together;
 When our beads are thus united,
 Then the foe will fly affrighted.

D.

CRUTCHES.

Thou seest me, Lucia, this year droop;
 Three zodiacs fill'd more, I shall stoop;
 Let crutches then provided be,
 To shore up my debility:
 Then, while thou laugh'st, I'll sighing cry,
 A ruin underpropt am I:
 Down will I then my bead'sman's gown,
 And when so feeble I am grown,
 As my weak shoulders cannot bear
 The burden of a grasshopper?
 Yet with the bench of aged sires,
 When I and they keep tearfully fires,
 With my weak voice I'll sing, or say
 Some odes I made of Lucia;
 Then will I heave my wither'd hand
 To Jove the mighty, for to stand
 Thy faithful friend, and to pour down
 Upon them many a benizon.

DI.

TO THY REVEREND SHADE OF HIS RELIGIOUS
FATHER.

That for seven lustres I did never come
To do the rites to thy religious tomb;
That neither hair was cut, or true tears shed
By me, o'er thee, as justments to the dead;
Forgive, forgive me; since I did not know
Whether thy bones had here their rest or no.
But now 'tis known, behold, behold I bring
Unto thy ghost, th' effused offering:
And look, what smallage, night-shade, cypress, yew,
Unto the shades have been, or now are due,
Here I devote; and something more than so;
I come to pay a debt of birth I own.
Thou gav'st me life, but mortal; for that one
Favour I'll make full satisfaction;
For my life mortal, rise from out thy hearse,
And take a life immortal from my verse.

DII.

TO ANTHEA.

Now is the time when all the lights wax dim;
And thou, Anthea, must withdraw from him
Who was thy servant: Dearest, bury me
Under that holy-oak, or gospel-tree;
Where, though thou see'st not, thou may'st think upon
Me, when thou yearly go'st procession;
Or, for mine honour, lay me in that tomb
In which thy sacred reliques shall have room;
For my embalming, sweetest, there will be
No spices wanting when I'm laid by thee.

DIII.

DISCONTENTS IN DEVON.

More 'discontents I never had,
 Since I was born, than here ;
 Where I have been, and still am sad,
 In this dull Devon-shire.
 Yet, justly too, I must confess,
 I ne'er invented such
 Ennobled numbers for the press,
 Than were I loath'd so much.

DIV.

TO PERILLA.

Ah, my Perilla ! dost thou grieve to see
 Me, day by day, to steal away from thee
 'Age calls me hence, and my grey hairs bid come
 And haste away to mine eternal home :
 'Twill not be long, Perilla, after this,
 That I must give thee the supremest kiss :
 Dead when I am, first cast in salt, and bring
 Part of the cream from that religious spring,
 With which, Perilla, wash thy hands and feet ;
 That done, then wind me in that very sheet
 Which wrapt thy smooth limbs, when thou didst im-
 plore
 The gods' protection but the night before .
 Follow me weeping to my turf, and there
 Let fall a primrose, and with it a tear ;
 Then lastly, let some weekly strewings be
 Devoted to the memory of me !
 Then shall my ghost not walk about, but keep
 Still in the cool and silent shades of sleep.

DV.

COMFORT TO A YOUTH THAT HAD LOST HIS LOVE.

What needs complaints,
When she a place
Has with the race
Of saints
In endless mirth,
She thinks not on
What's said or done
In earth ;
She sees no tears,
Or any tone
Of thy deep groan
She hears ;
Nor does she mind,
Or think on't now,
That ever thou
Wast kind :
But chang'd above,
She likes not there,
As she did here,
Thy love.
Forbear, therefore,
And lull asleep
Thy woes, and weep
No more.

DVI.

HIS DESIRE.

Give me a man that is not dill,
When all the world with rifts is full ;

But unamaz'd dares clearly sing,
 When as the roof's a tottering ;
 And though it falls, continues still
 Tickling the Cittern with his quill.

DVII.

TO PERENNA.

I a dirge will pen for thee ;
 Thou a trental make for me ;
 That the monks and friars together,
 Here may sing the rest of either :
 Next, I'm sure, the nuns will have
 Candlemas to grace the grave.

DVIII.

CONFORMITY.

Conformity was ever known
 A foe to dissolution;
 Nor can we that a ruin call,
 Whose crack gives crushing unto all.

DIX.

HIS CAVALIER.

Give me that man that dares bestrik'e
 The active-sea-horse, and with pride,
 Through that huge field of waters ride:
 Who with his looks too, can appease
 The ruffling winds and raging seas,
 In mids't of all their outrages.
 This, this a virtuous men can do,
 Sail against rocks, and split them too ;
 Aye, and a world of pikes pass through.

DX.

TO LAURELS.

A funeral stone
 Or verse, I covet none ;
 But only crave
 Of you, that I may have
 A sacred laurel springing from my grave ;
 Which being seen,
 Blest with perpetual green,
 May grow to be
 Not so much call'd a tree,
 As the eternal monument of me.

DXI.

TO PERENNA, A MISTRESS.

Dear Perenna, prithee come,
 And with smallage dress my tomb ;
 Add a cypress sprig thereto
 With a tear, and so adieu.

DXII.

THE PLAUDIT, OR END OF LIFE.

If after rude and boisterous seas,
 My wearied pinnace here finds ease ;
 If so it be I've gain'd the shore ;
 With safety of a faithful oar ;
 If having run my barque on ground,
 Ye see the aged vessel crown'd ;
 What's to be done ? but on the sands
 Ye dance and sing, and now clap hands.
 The first act's doubtful, but we say,
 It is the last commends the play.

UPON MRS. ELIZ. WHEELER, UNDER THE NAME OF
AMARILLIS.

Sweet Amarillis, by a spring's
Soft and soul-melting murmurings,
Slept; and thus sleeping, thither flew
A Robin-red breast; who at view,
Not seeing her at all to stir,
Brought leaves and moss to cover her:
But while he, perking, there did pry
About the arch of either eye,
The lid began to let out day,
At which poor Robin flew away;
And seeing her not dead, but all disleav'd,
He chirpt for joy, to see himself deceiv'd.

lxxiv.

HIS WISH.

It is sufficient if we pray
To Jove, who gives and takes away;
Let him the land and living find;
Let me alone to fit the mind.

lxxv.

TO ROBIN-RED-BREAST.

Laid out for dead, let thy last kindness be
With leaves and moss-work for to cover me;
And while the wood-nymphs my cold corse intell
Sing thou my dirge, sweet-warbling chorister.
For epitaph, in foliage, next write this:
Here, here the tomb of Robin Herrick is!

DXVI.

FAIR SHOWS DECEIVE.

Smooth was the sea, and seem'd to call
 To pretty girls to play withall;
 Who paddling there, the sea soon frown'd,
 And on a sudden both were drown'd.
 What credit can we give to seas,
 Who, kissing, kill such saints as these?

DXVII.

THE BEGGAR.

Shall I a daily beggar be,
 For love's sake asking alms of thee?
 Still shall I crave, and never get
 A hope of my desired bit?
 Ah, cruel maids! I'll go my way;
 Whereas, perchance, my fortunes may
 Find out a threshold or a door,
 That may far sooner speed the poor:
 Where thrice we knock, and none will hear,
 Cold comfort still I'm sure lives there.

DXVIII.

HIS CHANGE.

My many cares, and much distress,
 Has made me like a wilderness;
 Or, discompos'd, I'm like a rude,
 And all confused multitude;
 Out of my comely manners worn,
 And as in means, in mind all torn.

DXIX.

THE MAD MAID'S SONG.

Good morrow to the day so fair ;
 Good morning, sir, to you ;
 Good morrow to mine own torn hair,
 Bedabbled with the dew.

Good morning to this primrose too ;
 Good morrow to each maid ;
 That will with flowers the tomb bestrew,
 Wherein my love is laid."

Ah ! woe is me, woe, woe is me,
 Alack, and well-a-day !
 For pity, sir, find out that bee,
 Which bore my love away.

I'll seek him in your bonnet brave ;
 I'll seek him in your eyes ;
 Nay, now I think, th'ave made his grave
 I'th' bed of strawberries.

I'll seek him there : I know, ere this,
 The cold, cold earth doth shake him ;
 But I will go, or send a kiss
 By you, sir, to awake him.

Pray hurt him not ; though he be dead,
 He knows well who do love him ;
 And who with green turfs rear his head,
 And who do rudely move him.

He's soft and tender, pray take heed,
 With bands of cowslips bind him,
 And bring him home; but 'tis decreed,
 That I shall never find him.

DXX.

A VOW TO MARS.

Store of courage to me grant,
 Now I'm turn'd a combatant;
 Help me, so that I my shield,
 Fighting lose not in the field.
 That's the greatest shame of all,
 That in warfare can befall.
 Do but this, and there shall be
 Offer'd up a wolf for thee.

DXXI.

UPON MAN.

Man is compos'd here of a twofold part;
 The first of nature, and the next of art;
 Art presupposes nature; nature she
 Prepares the way for man's docility.

DXXII.

EVEN-SONG.

Begin with Jove; then is the work half done,
 And runs most smoothly when 'tis well begun.
 Jove's is the first and last; the morn's his due
 The midst is thine, but Jove's the evening too,
 As sure a matins does to him belong,
 So sure he lays claim to the even-song.

DXXIII.

LIBERTY.

Those ills that mortal men endure,
 So long are capable of cure,
 As they of freedom may be sure:
 But that deny'd; a grief, though small
 Shakes the whole roof, or ruins all.

DXXIV.

NO WANT WHERE THERE'S LITTLE.

To bread and water none is poor;
 And having these, what need of more?
 Though much from out the cress be spent,
 Nature with little is content.

DXXV

CLEMENCY.

For punishment in war, it will suffice,
 If the chief author of the faction dies;
 Let but few smart, but strike a fear through all;
 Where the fault springs, there let the judgment fall.

DXXVI.

PRAY AND PROSPER.

First offer incense, then thy field and meads
 Shall smile and smell the better by thy beads.
 The spangling dew dredg'd o'er the grass shall be
 Turn'd all to meal and manna there for thee.
 Butter of amber, cream, and wine, and oil,
 Shall run as rivers all throughout thy soil.
 Would'st thou to sincere silver turn thy mould?
 Nay nce, twice pray, and turn thy ground to gold.

DXXVII.

UPON PRUDENCE BALDWIN, HER SICKNESS.

Prue, my dearest maid, is sick,
 Almost to be lunatic:
 Æsculapius! come and bring
 Means for her recovering;
 And a gallant cock shall be
 Offer'd up by her to thee.

DXXVIII.

UPON JULIA'S ALMS.

See how the poor do waiting stand
 For the expansion of thy hand.
 A wafer doled by thee will swell
 Thousands to feed, by miracle.

DXXIX.

TO THE NIGHTINGALE AND, ROBIN RED-BREAST.

When I departed am, ring thou my knell,
 Thou pitiful and pretty Philomel;
 And when I'm laid out for a corse, then be
 Thou sexton, Red-breast, for to cover me.

DXXX.

TO JULIA IN THE TEMPLE.

Besides us two, i' th' Temple here's not one
 To make up now a congregation,
 Let's to the altar of perfumes then go,
 And say short prayers: and when we have done so,
 Then we shall see, how in a little space
 Saints will come in to fill each pew and place.

DXXXI.

MATINS, OR MORNING PRAYER.

When with the virgin morning thou do'st rise,
 Crossing thyself, come thus to sacrifice ;
 First wash thy heart in innocence, then bring
 Pure hands, pure habits, pure, pure every thing.
 Next to the altar humbly kneel, and thence
 Give up thy soul in clouds of frankincense.
 Thy golden censors fill'd with odours sweet,
 Shall make thy actions with their ends to meet.

DXXXII.

LITTLENES NO CAUSE OF LEANNESS.

One feeds on lard, and yet is lean ;
 And I, but feasting with a bean,
 Grow fat and smooth : The reason is,
 Jove prospers my meat more than his.

THE COMING OF GOOD-LUCK.

So good-luck came, and on my roof did light,
 Like noiseless snow, or as the dew of night ;
 Not all at once, but gently, as the trees
 Are, by the sun-beams, tickled by degrees.

DXXXIV.

UPON THE LOSS OF HIS FINGER.

One of the five straight branches of my hand
 Is lopt already : and the rest but stand
 Expecting when to fall ; which soon will be :
 First dies the leaf, the bough next, next the tree.

DXXXV.

HIS CONTENT IN THE COUNTRY.

Here, here I live with what my board
 Can with the smallest cost afford ;
 Though ne'er so mean the viands be,
 They will content my Prew and me :
 Or pea or bean, or wort or beet,
 Whatever comes, content makes sweet.
 Here we rejoice, because no rent
 We pay for our poor tenement ;
 Wherein we rest, and never fear
 The landlord or the usurer.
 The quarter-day does ne'er affright
 Our peaceful slumbers in the night ;
 We eat our own, and batten more,
 Because we feed on no man's score ;
 But pity those whose flanks grow great,
 Swell'd with the lard of other's meat.
 We bless our fortunes when we see
 Our own beloved privacy ;
 And like our living, where w'are known
 To very few or else to none.

DXXXVI.

ON HIMSELF.

The work is done ; young men and maidens set
 Upon my curls the myrtle coronet,
 Wash'd with sweet ointments ; thus at last I come
 To suffer in the muses' martyrdom ;
 But with this comfort, if my blood be shed,
 The muses will wear black, when I am dead.

DXXXVII.

HIS WINDING-SHEET.

Come thou, who art the wine and wit
 Of all I've writ;
 The grace, the glory, and the best
 Piece of the rest;
 Thou art of what I did intend
 The all, and end;
 And what was made, was made to meet
 Thee, thee my sheet;
 Come then, and be to my chaste side
 Both bed and bride.
 We two, as reliques left, will have
 One rest, one grave;
 And, hugging close, we will not fear
 Lust entering here;
 Where all desires are dead or cold,
 As is the mould;
 And all affections are forgot,
 Or troubled not.
 Here, here the slaves and prisoners be
 From shackles free;
 And weeping widows, long oppress'd,
 Do here find rest.
 The wronged client ends his laws
 Here, and his cause;
 Here those long suits of Chancery lie
 Quiet, or lie;
 And all Star-chamber bills do cease,
 Or hold their peace.
 Here needs no court for our request,
 Where all are best;

All wise, all equal, and all just
 Alike i'th' dust.
 Nor need we here to fear the frown
 Of court or crown ;
 Where fortune bears no sway o'er things,
 There all are kings.
 In this securer place we'll keep,
 As lull'd asleep ;
 Or for a little time we'll lie,
 As robes laid by,
 To be another day re-worn,
 Turn'd but not torn ;
 Or like old testaments engross'd,
 Lock'd up, not lost ;
 And for a while lie here conceal'd,
 To be reveal'd
 Next, at that great Platonic year,
 And then meet here.

DXXXVIII.

THE MOUNT OF THE MUSES.

After thy labour, take thine ease
 Here with the sweet Pierides.
 But if so be that men will not
 Give thee the laurel crown for lot,
 Be yet assur'd thou shalt have one
 Not subject to corruption.

DXXXIX.

OF HIMSELF.

Some parts may perish, die thou canst not all ;
 The most of thee shall 'scape the funeral.

DXL.

TO THE LADY CREW, UPON THE DEATH OF HER
CHILD.

Why, Madam, will ye longer weep,
When as your baby's lull'd asleep?
And, pretty child, feels now no more
Those pains it lately felt before.
All now is silent; groans are fled;
Your child lies still, yet is not dead:
But rather like a flower hid here,
To spring again another year.

DXLI.

HIS WISH.

Fat be my hind; unlearned be my wife;
Peaceful my night; my day devoid of strife:
To these a comely offspring I desire,
Singing about my everlasting fire.

DXLII.

A MEAN IN OUR MEANS.

Though frankincense the deities require,
We must not give all to the hallow'd fire.
Such be our gifts, and such be our expense.
As for ourselves to leave some frankincense.

DXLIII.

ON HIMSELF.

I'll write no more of love, but now repent
Of all those times that I in it have spent.
I'll write no more of life, but wish 'twas ended,
And that my dust was to the earth commended.

DXLIV.

TO SPRINGS AND FOUNTAINS.

I heard ye could cool heat; and came
 With hope you would allay the same;
 Thrice I have wash'd, but feel no cold,
 Nor find that true which was foretold.
 Methinks, like mine, your pulses beat,
 And labour with unequal heat;
 Cure, cure yourselves, for I descry
 Ye boil with love as well as I.

DXLV.

THE WATCH.

Man is a watch, wound up at first, but never
 Wound up again; once down, he's down for ever;
 The watch once down, all motions then do cease:
 The man's pulse stopt, all passions sleep in peace.

DXLVI.

REST REFRESHES.

Lay by the good a while; a resting field
 Will after ease, a richer harvest yield;
 Trees this year bear; next, they their wealth withhold;
 Continual reaping makes a land wax old.

DXLVII.

THE END OF HIS WORK.

Part of the work remains, one part is past
 And here my ship rides, having anchor cast.

DXLVIII.

TO CROWN IT.

My wearied bark, O let it now be crown'd !
 The haven reach'd to which I first was bound,

DXLIX.

HIS PILLAR OF FAME.

Fame's pillar here at last we set,
 Out-during marble, brass, or jet ;
 Charm'd, and enchanted so,
 'As to withstand the blow
 Nor shall the seas,
 Of overthrow :
 Or " outrages
 Of storms, o'erbear
 What we uprear :
 Tho' kingdoms fall ;
 This pillar never shall
 Decline, or waste at all ;
 But stand for ever by his own
 Firm, and well-fix'd foundation.

To his Book's End, this last line he'd have plac'd :
 Jocund his Muse was, but his life was chaste.

INDEX.

A funeral stone	225
A little saint best fits a little shrine	212
A man prepared against all ills to come	200
A master of a house as I have read	203
A wanton and lascivious eye	123
A wearied pilgrim I have wandered here	202
Adversity hurts none but only such	125
After the feast, my Shapcot, see	77
After the rare arch-poet Jonson died	150
After thy labours, take thine ease	235
Against diseases here the strongest fence	145
Ah, Bianca, now I see	205
Ah, Lycidas, come tell me why	
Ah! my Perilla! dost thou grieve to see	222
Ah, Posthumous! our years hence fly	40
All are not ill plots that do sometimes fail	144
All has been plundered from me but my wit	122
All things are open to these two events	126
All things decay with time. The forest sees	211
All things subject are to fate	204
Although our suffering meets with no relief	143
And as, time past, when Cato the severe	174
Anthea, I am going hence	218
Art quickens Nature, Care will make a face	139
As gilly-flowers do but stay	108
As is your none, so is your comely face	176
As oft as night is banish'd by the morn	141
As thou deserv'st, be proud; then gladly let	127
As weary pilgrims once possess'd	103
Ask me what hunger is, and I'll reply	142
Ask me why I do not sing	201

At Draw-gloves we'll play	91
At my homely country-seat	69
Attempt the end, and never stand to doubt	133
Bad are all surfeits; but physicians call	120
Bad are the times. <i>Sil.</i> And worse than they are we	61
Be not dismayed, though crosses cast thee down	130
Beauty's no other but a lovely grace	123
Beauty no other thing is than a beam	138
Begin with Jove; then is the work half done	229
Besides us two, I' th' temple, here's not one	241
Both you two have	202
Break off delay, since we but read of one	117
Bright tulips, we do know	58
Bring the holy crust of bread	97
But born, and like a short delight	110
By dream, I saw one of the three	200
So much, virtue is the less	123
By the weakest means things mighty are o'erthrown	115
By time and counsel, do the best we can	141
Call me no more	201
Care keeps the conquest; 'tis no less renown	133
Charon! O gentle C'aron! let me woo thee	63
Come, and let's in solemn wise	215
Come, blitheful neat-herds, let us lay	30
Come, bring with a noise,	88
Come, guard this night the Christmas-pie	93
Come down, and dance ye in the toil.	96
Come, leave this loathed country-life, and then	198
Come thou, who art the wine and wit	231
Come, sons of summer; by whose to	23
Come with the spring-time forth, fair maid; and be	24
Command the roof, great Genius, and from thence	84
Conformity gives comeliness to things	135
Conformity was ever known	224
Conquer we shall, but we must first contend	14
Consider sorrows, how they are aright	122

Consult ere thou begin'st; that done, go on	124
Dead falls the cause, if once the hand be mute	137
Dean-bourn, farewell; I never look to see	185
Dear Percynna, prithee come	225
Dearest of thousands, now the time draws nigh	217
Despair takes heart, when there's no hope to speed	130
Did I or love, or could I others draw	166
Die ere long, I'm sure I shall	146
Direct and prudent we that discord call	123
Does Fortune rend thee? Bear with thy hard fate	219
Down with rosemary and bays	90
Down with the rosemary and so	92
Dread not the shackles; on with thine intent	184
Dry your sweet cheek, long drown'd with sorrow's rain	204
Dull to myself, and almost dead to these	187
Each must in Virtue strive for to excel	137
Empires of kings are now, and ever were	187
End now the white-loaf and the pie	92
Examples lead us, and we likely see	124
Excess is sluttish; keep the mean; for why	143
Fair and foul days trip cross and pile; the fair	126
Fair daffodils, we weep to see	60
Fair pledges of a fruitful tree	55
Fair was the dawn; and but e'en now the skies	59
Faith is a thing that's four-square; let it fall	132
Fame's pillar here at last we set	238
Fat be my hind; unlearned be my wife	236
Fight thou with shafts of silver, and o'ercome	156
First, April, she with mellow showers	64
First, for effusions due unto the dead	184
First for your shape, the curious cannot show	158
First, may the hands of bounty bring	214
First offer incense, then thy field and meads	230
Fled are the frosts, and now the fields appear	65
For a kiss or two, confess	33

For all our works a recompense is sure	119
For all thy many courtesies to me	157
For being comely, consonant, and free	176
For brave comportment, wit without offence	169
For civil, clean, and circumcised wit	163
For my neighbour, I'll not know	192
For one so rarely tun'd to fit all parts	164
For punishment in war, it will suffice	230
Fortune no higher project can devise	127
Fortune's a blind profuser of her own	118
For truth I may this sentence tell	146
Fresh strowings allow	87
From noise of scare-fires rest ye free	100
From the dull confines of the drooping west	208
Get up, get up, for shame, the blooming morn.	22
Give house-room to the best, 'tis never known	131
Give me a cell	205
Give me a man that is not dull	223
Give me that man that dares bestride	224
Give want her welcome, if she comes; we find	114
Give way, give way, ye gates, and win	89
Give way, give way; now now, my Charles shines here	165
Glory be to the Graces	180
Glory no other thing is, 'Tully says	116
Go I must, when I am gone	188
Go on, brave Hopton, to effectuate that	178
Go, perjur'd man; and if thou e'er return	192
Go woo young Charles no more to look	148
Goddess of youth, and lady of the spring	153
Gone she is a long, long way	106
Good day, Mirtillo. <i>Mirt.</i> And to y ^e u no less	97
Good-morrow to the day so fair	228
Good things, that come of course, far less do please	137
Great cities seldom rest; if there be none	134
Great men by small means oft are overthrow'n	121
Grow for two ends, it matters not at all	141

Handsome you are, and proper you will be	167
Hang up hooks and shears to scare	97
Hard are the two first stairs unto a crown	130
Hast thou attempted greatness? then go on	123
Hast thou begun an act? ne'er thou give o'er	118
Haste is unhappy: what we rashly do	214
He that may sin, sins least; leave to transgress	136
He that will live, of all cares dispossess'd	133
He who commends the vanquish'd, speaks the power	127
He who has suffer'd shipwreck, fears to sail	113
He who wears blacks, and mourns not for the dead	140
Health is no other, as the learned hold	125
Health is the first good lent to men	193
Help me, Julia, for to pray	220
Hence a blessed soul is fled	108
Hence, hence, profane; soft silence let us have	197
Here a pretty baby lies	106
Here a solemn fast we keep	109
Here, here I live with what my board	237
Here, here I live	195
Here I myself might likewise die	218
Here lies a virgin, and as sweet	103
Here lies Jonson, with the rest	109
Here she lies, a pretty bud	109
Here she lies, in bed of spice	105
Here we are all by day, by night we're hurl'd	139
Holy rood, come forth and shield	99
Holy water come and bring	93
Honour to you who sit	206
How dull and dead are books	152
How rich a man is, all desire to know	141
a dirge will pen for thee	224
I am of all bereft	195
I begin to wane in sight	195
I can but name thee, and methinks I call	156
I cannot pipe as I was wont to do	188

I cannot suffer; and in this, my part	129
I have my laurel chaplet on my head	175
I heard ye could cool heat; and came	237
I make no haste to have my numbers read	114
I send, I send here my supremest kiss	32
I who have favor'd many, come to be	158
I will be short, and having quickly hurl'd	170
I will no longer kiss	183
I'll do my best to win whene'er I woo	138
I'll sing no more, nor will I longer write	213
I'll to thee a simnel bring	100
I'll write no more of love, but now repent	236
I've paid thee what I promis'd; that's not all	154
If accusation only can draw blood	127
If after rude and boisterous seas	225
If dear Anthea, my hard fate it be	185
If I lie unburied, sir	217
If I dare to write you, my lord, who are	159
If kings and kingdoms once distracted be	145
If little labour, little are our gains	124
If men can say that beauty dies	110
If Nature do deny	115
If so be a toad be laid	88
If that my fate has now fulfill'd my year	203
If thou ask me, dear, wherefore	182
If thou hast found an honeycomb	219
If well the dice run, let's applaud the cast	114
If well thou hast begun, go on fore right	146
If when these lyrics, Cæsar, you shall hear	153
If wholesome diet can re-cure a lean	146
If ye fear to be affrighted	98
If ye will with Mab find grace	69
Immortal clothing I put on	216
Imparity doth ever discord bring	121
In all our high disengagements, 'twill appear	133
In all thy need be thou possess'd	103
In battles what disasters fall	121

In desperate cases, all, or most are known	122
In holy meetings there a man may be	129
In's Tuscanyes, Tully doth confess	143
In man, Ambition is the common'st thing	138
In the hope of ease to come	142
In the morning when ye rise	97
In things a moderation keep	125
In this little urn is laid	104
In this little vault she lies	106
In this misfortune kings do most excel	131
In time of life I grac'd you with my verse	66
In ways to greatness, think on this	117
Is this a life, to break thy sleep	20
It is sufficient if we pray	223
It was, and still my care is	86
Jove may afford us thousands of reliefs	129
Kindle the Christmas brand, and then	91
Kings must be dauntless; subjects will contemn	144
Kings must not oft be seen by public eyes	118
Kings must not only cherish up the good	124
Kings must not use the axe for each offence	132
Kissing and bussing differ both in this	126
Knew'st thou one month wo'd take thy life away	116
Know when to speak; for many times it brings	134
Laid out for dead, let thy last kindness be	326
Lay by the good awhile; a resting field	237
Learn this of me, where'er thy lot doth fall	128
Let all chaste matrons, when they chance to see	166
Let kings and rulers learn this line from me	133
Let kings command, and do the best they may	136
Let me sleep this night away	109
Let moderation on thy passions wait	134
Let not thy tombstone e'er be laid by me	194
Let the superstitious wife	95
Let there be patrons, patrons like to thee	159

Let's live with that small pittance that we have	115
Let's strive to be the best; the Gods, we know it	130
Life is the body's light; which once declining	213
Life of my life, take not so soon thy flight	182
Like to the income must be our expense	138
Like will to like; each creature loves his kind	140
Little you are; for woman's sake be proud	113
Live with a thrifty, not a needy fate	139
Look how the rainbow doth appear	199
Lost to the world; lost to myself; alone	110
Loth to depart, but yet at last each one	99
Love and the Graces evermore doth wait	124
Love is a circle, and an endless sphere	122
Love is a kind of war; hence those who fear	119
Love is maintain'd by wealth; when all is spent	118
Love, love me now, because I place	178
Love's of itself too sweet, the best of all	145
Love on a day, wise poets tell	37
Maids nays are nothing, they are shy	117
Man is a watch, round up at first, but never	237
Man is compos'd here of a twofold part	229
Man knows where first he ships himself; but he	150
Man may at first transgress, but next do well	131
Man may want land to live in; but for all	121
Man must do well out of a good intent	135
Man's disposition is for to requito	219
Many we are, and yet but few possess	142
May his pretty dukeship grow	149
Men are not born kings, but are men renown'd	115
Men are suspicious, prone to discontent	129
Men must have bounds how far to walk; for we	131
Milk still your fountains and your springs; for why	122
More discontents I never had	222
My many cares, and much distress	227
My Muse in meads has spent her many hours	157
My wearied bark, O let it now be crown'd	238

Need is no vice at all, though here it be	126
Nero commanded, but withdrew his eyes	125
Never my book's perfection did appear	152
Never was day so over-sick with showers	184
Next is your lot, fair, to be number'd one	158
No grief is grown so desperate, but the ill	143
No man comes late unto that place, from whence	115
No man so well a kingdom rules, as he	115
No man such rare parts hath, that he can swim	131
No more, my Silvia, do I mean to pray	210
No more shall I since I am driven hence	68
No news of navies burnt at sea	58
No wrath of men, or rage of seas	203
None goes to warfare, but with this intent	138
Nor art thou less esteem'd, that I have plac'd	162
Nor is my number full, till I inscribe	163
Nor think that thou in this my book art worst	171
Nothing can be more loathsome, than to see	113
Nothing comes free cost here; Jove will not let	130
Nothing hard or harsh can prove	126
Nothing is new; we walk where others went	128
Now is the time when all the lights wax dim	221
Now is your turn, my dearest, to be set	166
Now, now the ninth comes	94
Now thou art dead, no eye shall ever see	107
O! Times most bad	155
Of all our parts, the eyes express	142
Of all those three brave brothers fall'n i' the war	155
On both our fortunes good, and bad we find	210
Uft bend the bow, and thou with ease shalt do	117
Oh look'd I back unto the times hence flown	181
Oh, as thou hast begun, brave youth, and get	153
On with thy work, though thou be'st hardly press'd	130
One ear tingles; some there be	97
One feeds on lard, and yet is lean	232
One more by thee, love, and desert have sent	154

One of the five straight branches of my hand	232
Only a little more	191
Other men's sins we ever bear in mind	124
Our crosses are no other than the rods	218
Our honours and our commendations be	141
Our household gods our parents be	211
Our mortal parts may wrapt in sere-cloths lie	127
Out of the world he must who once comes in	128
Part of the work remains, one part is past	237
Partly work and partly play	95
Physicians might not against men, but these	115
Physicians say, repletions springs	141
Play I could once; but, gentle friend, you see	190
Please your grace, from out your store	81
Praise, they that will, times past; I joy to see	131
Preposterous is that government, and rude	128
Preposterous is that order, when we run	116
True, my dearest maid is sick	231
Put on thy holy fillings, and so	216
Putrefaction is the end	128
Rare is the voice itself, but when we sing	115
Rare temples thou hast seen I know	70
Readers, we entreat ye pray	217
Read thou my lines, my Sweetnaham, if there be	162
Reproach we may the living, not the dead	114
Rise, household-gods, and let us go	193
Sadly I walk'd within the field	92
See how the poor do waiting stand	231
Seeing thee, Soame, I see a godly man	155
Shall I a daily beggar be	227
Shame is a bad attendant to a state	136
Shapcot! to thee the fairy state	55
Should I not put on blacks, when each one here	169
Shut not so soon the dull-ey'd night	21
Since for thy full deserts, with all the rest	154

Since shed or cottage I have none	177
Since to the country first I came	186
Smooth was the sea, and seem'd to call	227
So good-luck came, and on my roof did light	232
Some parts may perish, die thou canst not all	235
Sorrows divided amongst many, less	126
Spend harmless shade, thy nightly hours	105
Stand by the magic of my powerful rhymes	163
Stand forth, brave man, since Fate has made thee here	168
Stand with thy graces forth, brave man, and rise	156
Still take advice, though counsels, when they fly	134
Still to our gains our chief respect is had	128
Store of courage to me grant	229
Stripes, justly given, yerk us with their fall	140
Studies themselves will languish and decay	135
Suspicion, discontent, and strife	142
Sweet Amarillis, by a spring	226
Sweet country life, to such unknown	35
Sweet virgin, that I do not set	161
Tears most prevail; with tears too thou may'st move	120
Tears quickly dry; griefs will in time decay	132
Tell me, young man, or did the Muses bring	170
Tell that brave man, fain thou would'st have access	174
That flow of gallants which approach	187
That for seven lustres, I did never come	221
That Happiness does still the longest thrive	121
That love 'twixt men does ever longest last	144
That morn which saw me made a bride	107
That prince must govern with a gentle hand	144
That prince takes soon enough the victor's room	137
That prince who may do nothing but what's just	144
That Princes may possess a suter seat	120
The body is the soul's poor-house, or home	119
The body's salt the soul is; which when gone	144
The factions of the great ones call	120
The Gods require the thighs	211

The gods to kings the judgment give to sway	136
The hag is astride	82
The May-pole is up	96
The mellow touch of music most doth wound	137
The person crowns the place; your lot doth fall	178
The readiness of doing doth express	123
The rose was sick, and smiling died	64
The saint-bell calls; and, Julia, I must read	194
The seeds of treason choke up as they spring	139
The twilight is no other thing we say	140
The work is done; young men and maidens set	233
These summer-birds did with thy master stay	194
Things are uncertain, and the more we get	135
This axiom I have often heard	118
This day is yours, great Charles! and in this war	177
This I'll tell ye by the way	98
This is my comfort; when she's most unkind	110
This is the height of justice, that to do	211
This stone can tell the story of my life	105
Those ends in war the best contentment bring	134
Those ills that mortal men endure	230
Those possessions short-liv'd are	116
Thou hadst the wreath before, now take the tree	151
Thou hast made many houses for the dead	218
Thou sail'st with others in this Argos here	182
Thou seest me, Lucia, this year's troop	220
Though a wise man all pressure can sustain	137
Though by well warding many blows we've past	118
Though clock	200
Though frankincense the deities require	236
Though from without no foes at all we fear	132
Though good things answer many good intents	236
Though hourly comforts from the Gods we see	130
Though long it be, years may repay the debt	115
Thrice, and above blest, my soul's half art thou	25
Thousands each day pass by, which we	117
Thus I	198

Till I shall come again, let this suffice	49
Time is the bound of things; where'er we go	124
'Tis a known principle in war	142
'Tis but a dog-like madness in bad kings	132
'Tis liberty to serve one lord; but he	120
'Tis much among the filthy to be clean	135
'Tis never, or but seldom known	125
'Tis no discomfort in the world to fall	140
'Tis not a thousand bullocks' thighs	213
'Tis not every day that I	208
'Tis not the food but the content	205
'Tis not the walls, or purple, that defends	116
'Tis said as Cupid danc'd among	45
'Tis still observ'd, that fame ne'er sings	116
'Tis still observ'd, those men most valiant are	131
'Tis the chiuurgeon's praise, and height of art	122
'Tis worse than barbarous cruelty to show	128
To an old sore a long cure must go on	135
To bread and water none is poor	230
To conquer'd men, some comfort 'tis to fall	138
To find that free of life, whose fruits did feed	160
To get thine ends, lay bashfulness aside	179
To mortal men great loads allotted be	116
To print our poems, the propulsive cause	112
To stop with you you did me home invite	209
To this white temple of my heroes, here	160
Touch but thy lyre, my Harp, and I hear	174
Tread, sirs, as lightly as you can	104
Truth by her own simplicity is known	145
Truth is best found out by the time and eyes	126
Tumble me down, and I will sit	207
'Twas Caesar's saying; kings no less conquerors are	122
'Twas not love's dart	196
'Twillight no other thing is, poets say	121
'Twixt kings and subjects there's this mighty odds	141
'Twixt truth and error there's this difference known	134
Two, of a thousand things, are disallow'd	139

Two parts of us successivly command	136
Two things do make society stand	119
Virgins promis'd when f.d.xd	198
Want is a softer wax that takes thereon	120
Wantons we are; and though our words be such	114
Wash clean the vessel, lest ye sour	146
Wassail the trees, that they may bear	93
We blame, nay, we despise her pains	219
We credit most our sight; one eye doth please	120
We pray 'gainst war, yet we enjoy no peace	121
We trust not to the multitude in war	133
We two are last in hell: what may we fear?	97
Weep for the dead, for they have lost this light	110
Welcome, great Cesar, welcome now you are	173
Welcome, myds of honour	65
Welcome, most welcome, to our vows and us	165
Welcome to this my college, and, though late	173
Were I to give thee Baptism, I would choose	186
Were there not a matter known	129
What can I do in poetry	84
What Fate decreed, Time now has made us see	161
What is't that wastes a prince? example shows	144
What needs complaints	223
What now we like, anon we disapprove	127
What others have with cheapness seen, and ease	171
What though the heaven be lowering now	204
What, though the sea be calm? Trust to the shore	141
What times of sweetness this fair day foreshows	60
What will ye, my poor orphans, do	189
What wisdom, learning, wit, or worth	104
What's got by justice is establish'd sure	133
Whatever men for loyalty pretend	113
When a daffodil I see	86
When all birds else do of their music fail	117
When after many lustres thou shalt see	168
When fear admits no hope of safety, then	143

When first I find these numbers thou dost write	175
When flowing garments I behold	199
When 'T a verse shall make	188
When I consider, dearest, thou dost stay	199
When I departed am, ring thou my knell	231
When I go hence, ye closet gods, I fear	189
When I of Villars do but hear the name	151
When I through all my many poems look	161
When Law's full power have to sway, we see	111
When my date's done, and my grey age must die	178
When one is past, another care we have	139
When others gain much by the present cost	116
When times are troubled, then forbear, but speak	146
When to thy porch I come, and ravi'd see	167
When what is lov'd is present, long doth spring	137
When with the virgin morning thou dost rise	232
When words we want, love teacheth to indite	119
Whene'er I go, or whatsoe'er befalls	189
Where love begins, there dread thy first desire	119
Where pleasures rule a kingdom, never there	143
Whether was myself, or else did see	172
While leanest beasts in pastures feed	112
White though ye be; yet lilies know	53
Who after his transgression doth repent	123
Who begs to die for fear of human need	119
Who forms a Godhead out of gold or stone	138
Who may do most, does least; the bravest will	170
Who plants an olive, but to eat the off	143
Who railing, drives the leazar from his door	125
Who violates the customs, hurts the health	135
Who will not honour noble numbers, when	121
Who with a little cannot be content	114
Why do ye weep, sweet babe? can tears	57
Why, Madam, will ye longer weep	236
Why should we covet much, when as we know	82
Why this flower is now call'd so	19
Wilt thou my true friend be	113

With blameless carriage lived here	107
Woe, woe to them, who by a ball of strife	186
Women, although they ne'er so goodly make it	118
Words beget anger; anger brings forth blows	245
Wrongs, if neglected, vanish in short time	125
Ye have been fresh and green	46
Ye may simper, blush, and smile	45
Ye pretty housewives, would ye know	83
You are a lord, an earl, nay more, a man	150
You ask me what I do, and how I live	212
You see this gentle stream that glides	210

